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The Middlebury Campus

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BABY YOU'RE A FIREWORK



PATRICK FREEMAN

Firefighters from the Middlebury Fire Department look on as the 90th Winter Carnival kicked off the three-day event with a bonfire and fireworks display outside Ross Commons on Thursday, Feb. 14.

Timeflies headlines spring concert

By Kathryn DeSutter

On Friday, April 12, the Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB) will host hip-hop duo Timeflies in Pepin Gymnasium for the annual spring concert. Tickets for the show will go on sale Feb. 25, and will be \$14 for students. After two weeks, tickets will be released to the public at \$25.

Timeflies's music has taken on labels including pop, electronic, dance and "frat rap," among others. The duo labels their own music as "electro-hip-pop-dub-something." Timeflies formed in 2010 when Rob Resnick, known as Rez, and Cal Shapiro met while performing together in a funk band at Tufts University. Shapiro is Timeflies's vocalist while Rez produces the music.

MCAB Concerts Committee co-chairs Molly Sprague '13 and Nick Mallchok '14.5 are excited about bringing the high-energy group to campus.

"Timeflies is an up-and-coming band with new ideas about how to play with music," said Sprague.

Timeflies has not yet informed MCAB if they will be providing their own opening act. In the event Timeflies does not provide its own act, MCAB will find a band.

Sprague and Mallchok discussed how they utilized the MCAB survey — which received over 1,000 responses last fall — to gauge student opinion for the concert. While there was demand for an outdoor concert similar to last spring's Guster show, Sprague

explained that they were hesitant to "put all [their] eggs in one basket" in case of weather conditions. Instead, Sprague, Mallchok and their fellow committee members followed students' expressed interest in an indoor dance show.

"We try to satisfy as many students' music tastes as we can," said Mallchok.

Timeflies's 2011 debut album, "The Scotch Tape," hit number eight on the iTunes chart just 24 hours after its release. The hit "Swoon" from Timeflies's "One Night" EP, released in 2012, also topped the iTunes charts.

If the show is not sold out, tickets at the door will be \$20 for students and \$30 for the general public. Advanced tickets can be purchased through the Box Office.



This Sunday on
The Campus Voice
Radio Show:
Featuring Middbeat,
WRMC and Middblog
Feb. 24 2-2:30 P.M.

College hosts board meetings

By Kyle Finck

Trustees descended upon the College over the weekend for one of their four annual meetings.

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz said that two committees produced resolutions for action. The Audit Committee approved the fall audit and the Budget and Finance Committee approved the comprehensive fee proposal, which increased by 2.7 percent to \$57,075, not including the student activities fee. Liebowitz called the resolutions "routine."

Their visit kicked off on Thursday, Feb. 14, with a dinner to celebrate the seven faculty members who recently received tenure. Dean of Faculty Philip Battell and Sarah Stewart Professor of Biology Andrea Lloyd introduced each of the newly tenured faculty before they explained their areas of study to the board members.

On Friday, board members split up into different sub-committees. Student Government Association (SGA) President Charlie Arnowitz '13 sat in on the Board's Student Affairs Committee and the Investment Committee meetings.

"I updated the Student Affairs Committee on SGA's work this year and some of the issues that are of concern to students, taking advantage of our survey

data and also discussing some of our other initiatives," Arnowitz reported in an email.

Arnowitz said that the majority of the Student Affairs Committee discussion revolved around a presentation given by representatives from the Projects in Creativity and Innovation (PCI).

While Arnowitz would not comment on what was discussed in the Investment Committee meeting, he stressed that the trustees are aware of student concerns.

"I will say that the Socially Responsible Investment Committee (SRI) issues that students have been discussing are very much on their radar," he wrote. "Student views are being taken seriously."

In a surprise unscheduled meeting early on Saturday, more than 50 students braved the frigid morning temperatures to greet the 18 trustees on their way to the day's first meeting. The students — many dressed in cow outfits — donned oversized "Wake Up, Divest Middlebury" posters in a part-presentation, part protest outside of Old Chapel before seven students headed inside to present to the board in an official meeting.

"The purpose of our divestment presentation was not to debate, but rather to present

SEE TRUSTEES, PAGE 4

Students protest XL pipeline in D.C.

By Emilie Munson

On Sunday Feb. 17, over 50 students and Schumann Distinguished Scholar Bill McKibben attended the "Forward On Climate" rally in Washington, D.C. The rally, sponsored by 350.org, the Sierra Club and the Hip-Hop Caucus, was the largest climate rally in American history, with approximately 40,000 participants.

"It was really cool to be a part of [the rally] and to just look back and see [thousands of] people behind you, all there for climate change," explained Hannah Bristol '14.5 who attended the rally. "It felt like we were really making ourselves heard."

The goal of the rally was primarily to protest the Keystone XL pipeline project, which seeks

to build a pipeline to transport crude oil from Canada to various locations in the western United States. President of the United States Barack Obama is currently faced with the decision of whether or not to approve the project.

During the rally and their march around the White House, the students held a collection of signs which, when viewed together from above, created the image of a pipeline and when flipped, looked like solar panels.

McKibben, who gave a speech at the rally praising the group gathered and urging them to continue their fight for climate change, views Obama's decision about the Keystone pipeline project as pivotal to environ-

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SHAKE IT LIKE A POLAROID PICTURE



PAUL GERARD

Students gathered in McCardell Bicentennial Hall on Sunday, Feb. 17 decked out in their craziest costumes and with their dancing shoes on to film their own version of the recent Youtube sensation "Harlem Shake" music video. Check out the *Campus* online for exclusive, making-of-the-video footage.

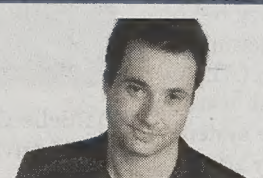
INSIDE



VT SENATE
PASSES BILL FOR
'DEATH WITH
DIGNITY'
PAGE 6



MIDD ALUMNA WINS
THE HARVARD PITCH
FOR CHANGE AWARD
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CHECK OUT
OUR EXCLUSIVE
INTERVIEW WITH
ADAM FERRARA
PAGE 16

BEYOND THE BUBBLE

BY DANNY ZHANG

It's the stuff you read about in sci fi novels and watch in thriller alien movies, but for the million residents in the city of Chelyabinsk, Russia last Friday, it was all too real. Just after sunrise on Feb. 15, the peace of the Ural Mountains was shattered by a once-in-a-century meteor explosion over the skies near Chelyabinsk.

The meteor, the diameter of which is estimated at 55 ft., left behind a trail of white smoke and blinding light in the sky and of shattered windows and damaged buildings on the ground. Nearly 1500 people were injured, most of who had been drawn to windows by the eerie flash of light which preceded the powerful sonic boom that sent shards of glass flying like shrapnel.

Aside from widespread shattered windows and doors, damage on the ground was largely minor, although car alarms wailed across the city and the shock was powerful enough to blow through a factory wall in the city. More than 3,700 buildings suffered damage, totaling just over \$30 million USD.

"The main task now is to maintain heat in the apartments and offices where the glass was smashed," said Chelyabinsk regional Governor Mikhail Yuyevich. Temperatures in the region at this time of the year range between approximately 0 Fahrenheit at night and about 20 degrees during the day.

The meteor penetrated the Earth's atmosphere at a speed of 40,000 miles per hour and weighed approximately 10,000 tons. It exploded at an altitude of 10-15 miles above the Earth's surface and released a burst of energy equivalent to 30 Hiroshima atom bombs.

University of Western Ontario scientist Peter Brown estimated that 33 seconds elapsed between the meteor's "atmospheric entry to [its] airborne disintegration.

This meteor is the largest reported in the world since a meteor six times its size exploded over central Siberia June 30, 1908. That explosion released over 1,000 times the energy of the Hiroshima bomb. Due to the remote location of its impact, no human damage was reported, though over 80 million trees were toppled by the shock wave.

After disintegration, much of the debris from the Chelyabinsk meteor landed in and around Lake Chebarkul, located about 55 miles northwest of the city of Chelyabinsk. The Russian government sent scientists to the area immediately after the event to collect evidence of the meteor's impact. A hole discovered on the frozen surface of the lake was initially thought to have been the result of the meteor, though divers have thus far found no debris in the lake.

On Monday, Russian scientists confirmed that they have collected at least 53 samples that came from the meteor around the hole in the lake. All of the pieces collected so far have been less than one-half inch in diameter. Early tests show that the rocks found so far contained about 10 percent iron, making this a common chondrite meteorite. Scientists still believe that the main body of the meteor is somewhere in the lake.

The Chelyabinsk meteor is the first one in recent history to have caused so many injuries on the ground. While many meteors enter the Earth's atmosphere each year, most disintegrate due to frictional heat before impact. In 2003, a large meteor shower caused minor damage to cars and houses in the suburbs of Chicago.

Currently, NASA is constructing two observatories in Hawaii called Asteroid Terrestrial-impact Last Alert System (ATLAS), which would provide advanced warning for incoming space objects. The system is scheduled to go into operation by 2015.

Be Bright launches energy campaign

By Isabelle Dietz

On Tuesday, Feb. 26 the Sustainability Integration Office is launching Be Bright, a pilot program to raise awareness and educate students about energy consumption on campus in a semester-long energy literacy campaign. The Sustainability Integration Office hopes the project will inform students and push them to be more conscientious of their own energy consumption while involving the campus in reaching carbon neutrality. The campaign's events will include an exhibit in Davis Family Library on March 11, a "pledge ride" event on March 6, a series of community dinners and the launch of a new Tumblr site which can be found at go/BeBright.

"The goal of this whole campaign is to educate students about energy use at Middlebury and why their actions are important and how they effect campus-wide energy usage," said Sustainability Communication and Outreach Coordinator Avery McNiff '12. "It's important to think about the consequences of one's own energy use in the world outside of Middlebury with the understanding that the use of energy effects the environment, economics and politics at personal, local, global scales."

The Be Bright campaign distributed surveys to the student body in January in order to collect data on what students already know and would like to know about energy consumption on campus.

"The survey was designed to gauge both students' perceptions of energy consumption and current practices of energy conservation," said Luke Elder '13, a student involved in the campaign.

The survey generated several inquiries among the student body, such as "Will we reach our goal of carbon neutrality?" and "How much energy do the solar panels near

the organic garden generate?" Answers to these questions will be posted on the Be Bright tumblr site throughout the semester.

The Feb. 26 launch dinner, to be held in Atwater Dining Hall, will serve local food and will feature a speech by Schumann Distinguished Scholar Bill McKibben. After dinner, students will have the opportunity to be photographed with their energy pledge, which will then be posted on the Tumblr page.

"We're hoping that this [will create] a record of the pledges made," explained McNiff. "They can be creative, even something very simple such as to turn off their lights every time they leave their room. We want people to be able to adapt it to their own lifestyle."

In the days following the dinner, pledge stations will be set up around campus so students can write their pledge on a whiteboard, take a picture with it and post it on the Tumblr page.

The site already features a photo of McKibben holding his pledge, which reads, "to keep campaigning for a clean future."

"We've found a lot of students want to know about carbon neutrality, and where we are on the path to carbon neutrality and so we're trying to tie this into the energy literacy campaign," said McNiff. "They want to know about our energy sources, where they come from, how the biomass [plant] works, what will we do to get to carbon neutrality, what we count in our carbon footprint. We need to make the answers to these questions available to students if we want to foster an energy literate community at Middlebury. We hope that in the effort to educate students we can also increase a sense of awareness and involvement. The idea for carbon neutrality initially came from students and it is crucial for students to continue to play a role in getting there."

While the student body is often considered to already be environmentally conscious due to the College's organized attempts to reach carbon neutrality, the energy literacy campaign seeks to educate students about the environmental effects of their behavior on a more individual level.

"I think energy literacy is important because energy consumption is one of the main ways that the average student contributes to the college's greenhouse gas emissions on a daily basis," said Elder. "Learning more about how seemingly small, daily decisions can impact the College's energy use can collectively have a large impact on campus."

Additionally, the campaign will incorporate different departments and elements of campus life that may not have been previously involved with energy issues on campus. For example, an exhibit of silkscreen pieces created by Ali Andrew '12.5 titled "Energy Imprints" has been installed in McCullough as a part of the project.

"What I would like to see happen most is for students to discover a greater sense of connection with the college environment," said Julian Macrone '14, who is involved in the campaign and interned for Director of Sustainability Integration Jack Byrne this summer.

"As much as the campaign aims to reduce energy usage, I think the long-term goal for the campaign is to really foster a greater understanding regarding how campus functions, and how our own actions shape the workings of that environment. If this can help construct a greater sense of ownership of their environment in students, then hopefully this will set the groundwork for an enduring sense of responsibility and a lifetime of stewardship in whatever environment students may find themselves in."

SGA UPDATE

Pub nights may have to be cancelled

By Will Schwartz

The Student Government Association (SGA) announced at their meeting on Jan. 27 that they had received 1,295 student responses on their survey dealing with campus life, sent out in an all-student email during the second week of winter term.

SGA President Charlie Arnowitz '13 was pleased with the response rate.

"We were very happy with participation in the survey," wrote Arnowitz in an email. "We met our goal of reaching half of the student body. As a result of this critical mass, we're finding that it is providing us with very useful data."

A concern brought up during the meeting was that female students were overrepresented among those who completed the survey. An additional concern was a low participation rate among varsity athletes. Varsity athletes make up about 33 percent of the student population, but only 18 percent of survey participants stated that they were varsity athletes.

The survey results will be shared with the student body at some point this year.

After the discussion about the survey, someone raised a concern about the availability of newspapers on campus. An ultimate decision was reached that while there may be a shortage of newspapers in print for students to pick up, any student can access the *New York Times* online by going to the

link go/nytpass.

Then the Mid-Year Treasurer's Report was presented to the SGA. At this time last year, the SGA had \$180,000 budgeted to student organization planning, but the budget has decreased to \$70,000 this year.

It was announced that student organizations no longer have to go to the finance committee to review spending. Old Chapel has helped take some of the financial burden off of the SGA to avoid a skyrocketing student activities fee. Had Old Chapel not provided financial support, the student activity fee was potentially going to be raised \$60, but due to financial intervention, it will only go up \$15.

By reducing overlaps in groups, the SGA was able to slash spending and still allocate \$47,328.45 to 36 new clubs. The Committee expects to be working with a \$1.1 million budget and maintain a small surplus. The SGA voted unanimously to approve the report.

At their meeting on Feb. 17, the SGA discussed the administration's consideration in ending their practice of distributing free yearbooks to all graduating students. In the financial report presented by the SGA treasury, it was stated that potential reform on this issue could save the College around \$50,000.

Every NESAC College, except Bowdoin, provides a free yearbook to graduates. Bowdoin provides a PDF copy of the yearbook to all graduating students.

The SGA was then informed that pub

nights in McCullough have not been very successful, with only 400 beers being sold over six nights. If pub nights do not yield more financial success, they are unlikely to remain.

Arnowitz hopes to continue pub nights, as he believes it could be a successful way to foster community on campus.

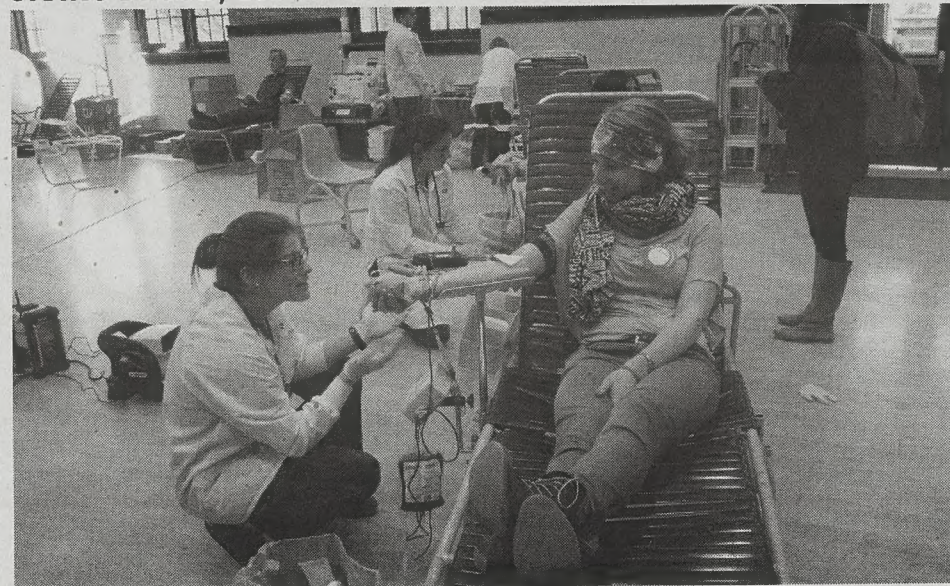
"I strongly believe that serving alcoholic beverages in an adult setting is a key component of both teaching responsible drinking behaviors and creating a healthier social scene on campus," said Arnowitz. "I'm hoping that we continue to provide programming for the space to draw students in and help make that vision a reality." Senators Killian Naylor '14.5, Will Potter '14.5, Christian Holmes '14 and Rachel Liddell '15 presented their sponsored bill titled "Feb Senator Reform Act of 2013." This act will reform Feb representation in the SGA.

Each class is currently represented in the SGA with two class senators and a single Feb senator. The proposed bill will exclude Feb from class elections in exchange for a second Feb senator.

Naylor explained the importance of the bill to allow equivalent Feb and September-entry student representation in the SGA.

"There was a problem of overrepresentation in the SGA," wrote Naylor in an email. "With this bill, we hope to strike a balance in [SGA] representation. This was not a serious problem, but it should help define and clarify constituencies moving forward."

GIVING BLOOD, GIVING LIFE



Danielle Gladstone '13 was one of many students who gave blood at the College's blood drive in McCullough Social Space on Monday, Feb. 18, hosted by the Red Cross.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

Buddy Meets the Strivers

Tickets are \$5 for this slam poetry event. FRIDAY AT 8 P.M.

Trivia Night

21+ two forms of ID. THURSDAY 9 - 11 P.M.

Zumba

Come dance the calories away at McCullough Social Space. SUNDAY AT 4 P.M.



ED admits are 48 percent of Class of 2017

By Isabelle Stillman

The College received a total of 699 Early Decision I applications this past fall, representing an eight percent increase from last year. Forty-two percent of applicants, or 295 students, were admitted. Of those admitted, 274 will arrive on campus in September as members of the class of 2017, and 21 will be representing the class of 2017.5.

"Middlebury has traditionally had a pretty significant Early Decision pool compared to our peers," said Dean of Admissions Gregory Buckles. According to Buckles, the number of early decision applicants changes from year to year, but generally hovers between six and seven hundred.

For the second year in a row, the College Admissions Office has reversed the ratio of deferred to denied among Early Decision applicants. Previously, approximately twice as many applicants were deferred than were denied. This year, 156 students were deferred and 281 applicants were denied.

"We want to be able to say to students who are deferred ED that they have a realistic shot," Buckles said. "We're trying to focus more on students we really do think would be able to have a chance in the spring."

The change was made to allow students who likely will not be offered admission the chance to make other plans. "It's educationally the better thing to do," said Buckles.

In reviewing and deciding upon Early Decision applications, the College Admissions Office aimed to fill between 45 and 48 percent of the incoming first-year class.

While the College remains strictly need-blind for domestic applicants, the Admissions Office employs a need-aware policy for international and transfer students. Thirty percent of students admitted Early Decision were offered financial aid. The Admissions Office aims to admit 43 percent of the entire class with financial aid.

Forty-three percent of admitted students were recruited for varsity athletics, a number that is on par with past Early Decision admissions statistics.

Recruited athletes are evaluated based

on two rating scales, both ranging from one to seven — one is based on talent and the other is based on character.

"[The New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC)] has very strict guidelines to ensure that athletes are representative of the entire student body," Buckles said. "There's no student athlete who's going to be admitted who would be below the standards of any other student here."

All applicants receive a grade on a scale of one to seven, comparable to the scale used for athletes.

"Forty-eight percent of the students admitted ED this year were rated a six or higher academically," said Buckles.

A rating of a six indicates a student with a minimum SAT score of 2190 or ACT

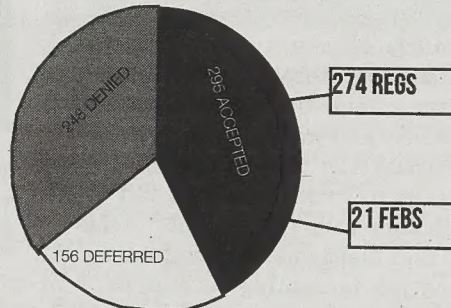
score of 32, virtually all A's across his or her transcript, and is someone who has taken the most rigorous courses offered by his or her school. According to Buckles, this academic rating is the highest it has ever been. Forty percent of last year's ED class received an academic rating of six or higher.

Eleven percent of students accepted Early Decision are first-generation college students, and 10 percent are legacies.

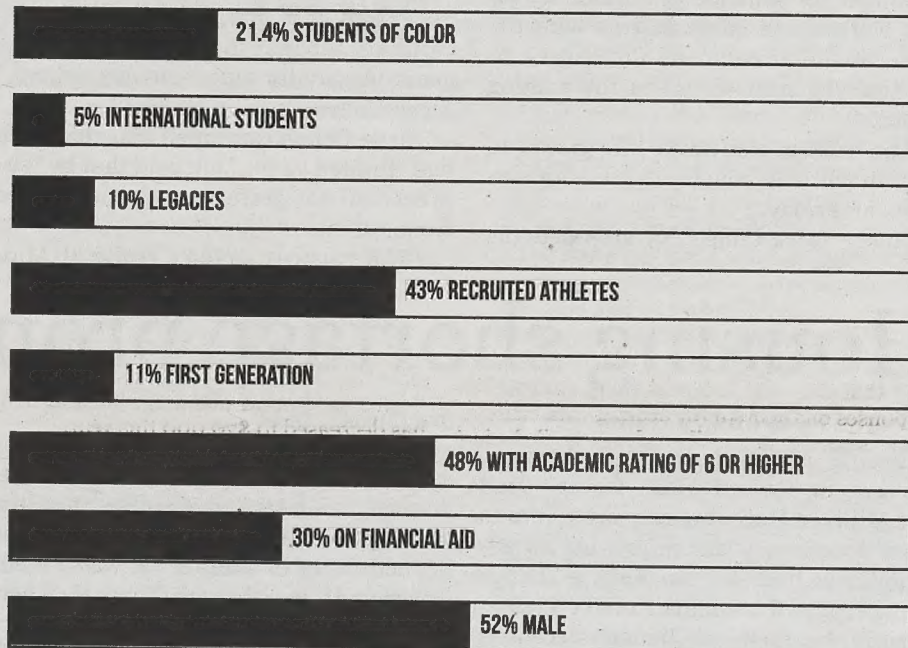
Forty-five percent of admitted Early Decision applicants hail from New England, 23 percent are from the Mid-Atlantic, five percent are from the Midwest, seven percent are from Southern states, 17 percent are from the Southwest, and five percent are from outside of the United States.

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EARLY DECISION APPLICANTS



EARLY DECISION ACCEPTED STUDENT BREAKDOWN...



Parking fines increase to \$50

By Jeremy Kallan

On Feb. 10 Public Safety announced an increase in parking ticket fines from \$10 to \$50, a change that has been applied to weekday and night winter ban and faculty and staff lot parking violations.

To decrease the number of tows required and increase compliance with the parking regulations, the fines were raised to magnify the "deterrence factor" of receiving a ticket, said Associate Dean of the College and Director of Public Safety Elizabeth Burchard.

"This change is necessary to reduce the gap between the previous ticket fines and the cost of a tow for the same violations," wrote Burchard in an email to the student body. "Parking enforcement continues to be necessary, and consistency and equity are an important part of this process."

Burchard said that Public Safety has received a number of complaints that the discrepancy between a \$10 parking violation fine and the \$125 charge for the first tow is too great.

Public Safety often tows cars that are parked overnight in winter ban and faculty/staff spaces in order to free up the spaces for snow removal and use in the morning, although they are "trying to continue to reduce the need to tow," said Burchard.

Burchard acknowledged a "grace period" for those using college facilities such as The Grille or the library after midnight, but cautioned against pushing this limit.

"At a certain point we do realize that the night is over and now faculty and staff are going to start arriving in the morning," said Burchard.

Burchard pointed out that Public Safety

contracts to a tow service. Public Safety will occasionally waive the high tow fee for students who appeal the charge, and in these cases, the cost of the tow is absorbed by the College.

"That doesn't really seem right," said Burchard.

Dan Vattick '15 said the new fines are too high and that the current system of charging tickets to students' accounts is ineffective as a deterrent.

Vattick suggests that Public Safety fine the students directly instead of billing their parents, or preventing students from registering for classes until all fines are paid.

"Then, kids would have to actually deal with the consequences of a ticket instead of just letting their parents pay for it," he said.

Burchard added that the number of tickets and tows has decreased significantly since she began working at Public Safety in 2001. She noted that while 5,773 tickets were issued in the 2001-2002 academic year, that number is now down to 3,549 tickets last school year.

A common complaint from students is that faculty and staff lots take the most convenient locations.

"A parking spot in Kenyon doesn't count for real parking because it provides no utilitarian purposes," said McKay Sheftall '14.

Faculty and staff are given priority for the spots most proximate to classrooms and buildings.

"[Students spots are] more at the peripheral of the campus," said Burchard, "so students are usually putting their cars

[in these spots] and leaving them there. Unfortunately students don't always like where the available spaces are located."

In addition, students often note that the ratio of student spaces to faculty and staff spaces does not seem to reflect the population and the need for spaces.

"The faculty and staff lots are never full," said Hannah Dietrich '14.5.

Burchard described the system of parking regulations as a "strategic process" because there is a limit to the number of spaces and "we need to control how they are used."

An idea that has been brought up among those responsible for parking regulations is to find a way to better associate parking spaces with housing assignments, said Burchard.

In order to make parking available for every permit holder, Public Safety must take into account external factors such as the current construction that has closed much of the Kenyon lot, said Burchard. The first-year spots that were once in that lot have now been moved to the lot behind the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts, with a number of news spaces added to the Ridgeline lot.

Most students have little to no experience with parking violations, but Burchard said that a small group of students have trouble with adhering to the regulations for a number of reasons.

Burchard emphasized that Public Safety is open to feedback.

"We are looking at the fact that there have been changes to parking ... We are trying to figure out if we did it right," said Burchard.

OVERSEAS BRIEFING

BY EMILY DUH '14

Madrid, Spain

"Guiri" is a colloquial term used in Spain to describe what is considered to be the stereotypical tourist or foreigner, and it is associated primarily with people from Northern Europe, the U.K. or the U.S. While I've heard it used in an endearing or light-hearted manner — "Of course you two finished your drinks before me, you're both *guiris*!" — I've found that it is more often than not accompanied by derision or condescension — "Of course you went to *Kapital* and *Joy* this weekend, only *guiris* go to those clubs."

While being referred to as a *guiri* doesn't particularly bother me, I do find it a bit odd that almost all of my classes and social encounters seem to revolve around this common theme: how NOT to look like, act like or sound like a *guiri*. In my obligatory seminar on Spanish culture, we were told on the first day that the purpose of the class is to "accept cultural differences," "adopt Spanish behavior" and "use appropriate gestures and body language," so that by the end of the semester we would all be bona fide *madrileños*. Since then, it seems as though what is more important than learning "how to be" a Spaniard is learning "how not to be" a *guiri*. Our professor will caution us with warnings such as, "Only *guiris* take the metro, real *madrileños* use the bus" or "Only *guiris* would eat paella on the western coast of Spain."

I have also encountered these informal lessons in social interactions with Spaniards: "I can spot that North Face-wearing *guiri* from a mile away." "You WOULD know all of the lyrics to Pitbull's verse in 'International Love,' you *guiri*." "Ordering water at a restaurant? What a *guiri*." As I can recognize the truth underneath the assumptions, I am able to laugh along. It is only when *guiri* is used in a negative way that "lacks merit" that I am resentful toward the label.

Before my program in Madrid started, I went to a Real Madrid game with my mom at the famous Santiago Bernabeu stadium. The score was tied 2-2 in the second half, and an offensive play was building up for the home side. As Cristiano Ronaldo was winding up for the shot, everyone in the stadium lifted themselves from their seats in anticipation. When the shot did go past the keeper to give Real Madrid the lead, the crowd roared and everyone jumped out of their chairs, including my mom and me. As we sat back down, two elderly men grabbed our shoulders and yelled at us for standing up before the goal was scored, and that our thoughtlessness prevented them from seeing the shot go in. Assuming that we couldn't understand them, they continued whispering nasty things to one another in Spanish about "those stupid *guiris*," and ultimately concluded that we "must be Americans."

Had we been the only people to stand up in the stadium perhaps I would understand their frustration; however, as this was obviously not the case, I was offended by the accusatory use of the word *guiri*. Not only was Ronaldo one-on-one with the keeper (of course a goal was about to be scored), but we were also not acting alone in this apparently *guiri* behavior. "Those damn Americans, always standing up right before the goal is scored" just doesn't seem like a justified insult.

It was never my intention or expectation to completely assimilate to Spanish culture, or totally "fit in" in Madrid. I'm taller than a great deal of the men, kind of Asian-looking, and I wear athletic shorts outside in the winter — I don't think I'm fooling anyone, nor am I trying to. Yet, I still feel this internal tug-of-war between embracing the fact that I'm a foreigner and rejecting it, between embracing the word *guiri* and rejecting it. Even though I take the bus to school instead of the metro, sometimes when I go to a store or restaurant and order in Spanish people will still respond to me in English. It seems as though regardless of what I say, what I do or how I do it, I can never be a true *madrileña*, so I may as well just continue wearing sweatpants outside of my apartment and receiving dirty looks. Why bother?

COLLEGE SHORTS

NEW

NEWS FROM ACROSS

NEWS FROM ACROSS THE NATION

AS THE NATION

COMPILED BY EMILY SINGER

Obama to deliver address at Morehouse College

A White House official has announced that President of the United States Barack Obama will deliver the commencement address at Morehouse College this spring. Morehouse is an all-male, historically black school in Atlanta, Ga. Martin Luther King Jr. is counted among Morehouse's celebrated alumni.

"The president's life story trumpets an ethic that we try to instill in all Morehouse men, namely excellence without apology or compromise," said Morehouse College President John Silvanus Wilson Jr.

The President's visit to Morehouse coincides with the 50th anniversary of King's "I Have a Dream" speech, the 150th anniversary of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation and the centennial anniversary of Morehouse College changing its name from Atlanta Baptist College in 1913.

Last year, President Obama gave commencement addresses at Barnard College in New York and Colorado's Air Force Academy, but has not yet announced additional commencement speeches planned for this year.

— The Atlanta-Journal Constitution

Professor bans Fox News

Professor of Political Science at West Virginia's West Liberty University, Stephanie Wolfe, issued a ban on using Fox News as a source for class assignments. Calling the news network's conservative bias cringe-inducing, Wolfe included both Fox and *The Onion* on a list of sources not to be cited in her course.

After receiving criticism from students and their parents alike, Wolfe has revoked her ban on Fox News.

"This is a case where we obviously have a concern, because as much as we will protect the academic freedom of the professor, we'll also protect the academic freedom of our students to go out and find as many sources as possible," West Liberty University President Robin Capehart announced during an appearance on a local Fox News station.

— The Huffington Post

Student at University of Maryland is stabbed to death

University of Maryland, Eastern Shore (UMES) junior biology major Edmond St. Clair was stabbed to death on the University's campus during a fight last weekend.

St. Clair was driving with his brother and friend when they came across three men standing in the middle of the road, refusing to move. The 21-year-old St. Clair exited his car to talk to the men and was subsequently stabbed in the heart.

State police are currently investigating police response times to the incident, as St. Clair's family has asserted that campus police took an extended period of time to arrive on the scene of the attack.

The stabbing of St. Clair occurred less than one week after an apparent murder-suicide left two students dead in College Park, M.D.

— The Baltimore Sun

Trustees 'wake up' to divestment

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the opinions and evidence gathered by students who favor divestment from fossil fuels and weapons manufacturing to the members of the board for consideration," wrote Nathan Arnosti '13 in an email, who attended the "Wake Up" demonstration and presented to the board.

"We also loved that 45 students showed up at 7:45 a.m. on a Saturday to show their support for divestment," Arnosti continued. "It affirms that the issue has strong support among the student body and has manifested itself through a coalition of multiple student organizations."

Arnosti said that while some of the students talked with trustees before and after the meeting, the Board had not discussed the content of the presentation in any official capacity.

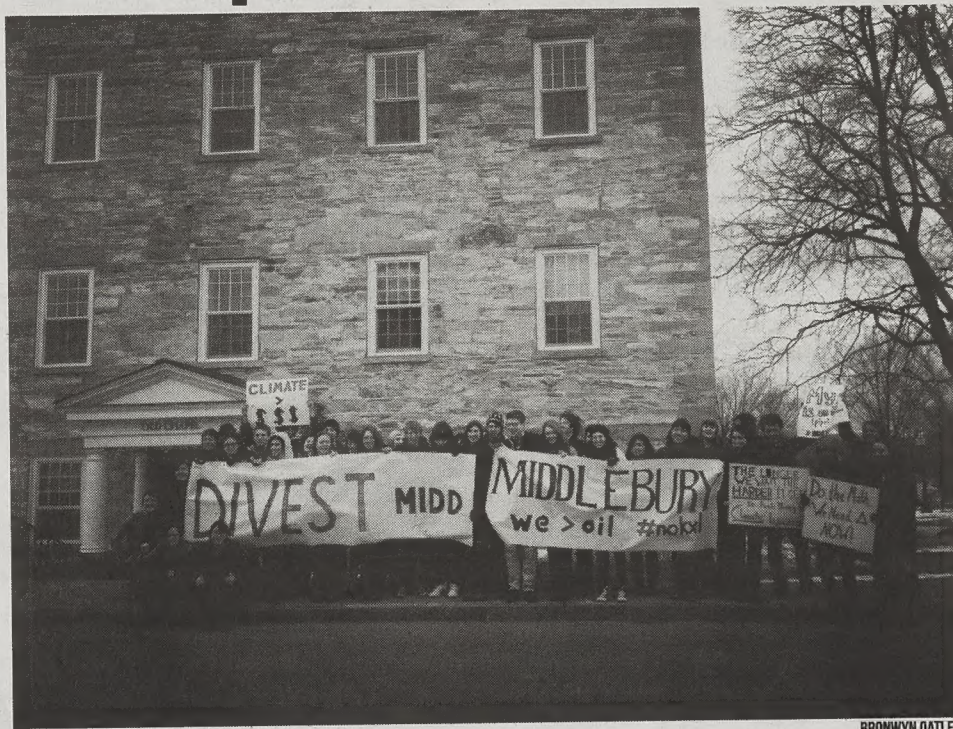
"I will say that the trustees, along with the administrators present, listened attentively and treated us with respect."

"I asked [the trustees] to use the opportunity to listen and learn and to see clarification from the students on this issue," said Liebowitz. "I thought they did a good job presenting various parts of why they were pushing for divestment."

Liebowitz explained that he and Vice President for Finance & Treasurer Patrick Norton will communicate with the chair of the Investment Committee to "outline the next steps" in the coming weeks.

The trustees also broke into groups to have lunch with roughly two dozen students on Friday.

Harry Zieve-Cohen '15 attended the



BRONWYN OATLEY

Fifty students gathered outside of Old Chapel at 7:45 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 16 to greet the Board of Trustees as they walked into their first meetings of the day.

lunch and said that Dean of the College Shirley Collado made it clear to the students who attended the event that they should be critically honest when speaking to the trustees.

"I think it is important that our concerns get brought to the attention of the generous adults who run our school," Zieve-Cohen wrote in an email.

Zieve-Cohen cautioned that the lunch had "limited value," but said that he "appreciated" the gesture on the part of the trustees.

"The trustees weren't really at Mid-

dlebury to hang out with students, and I think contact with the broader community can serve to help board members think beyond abstract data and theories.

"I think it is important that our concerns get brought to the attention of the generous adults who run our school," he continued. "Students have valuable insights, but they have little experience and knowledge about how the world works. This sort of real-world experience is where the Board is probably the most valuable."

Housing shortage prompts change

By Bronwyn Oatley

Facing a spring housing shortage, lounges in Gifford Hall, Hadley Hall and Milliken Hall were converted into to dorm rooms in order to provide an additional 14 beds for students, a change that permitted students to have greater flexibility in their late-January decisions about whether to return to campus, but has angered some as a result of the decrease in social spaces within the dorms.

During winter term, Residential Systems Coordinator Karen Hall-Kolts advised Facilities Services to convert one double in Gifford Hall and one double in Hepburn Hall into student housing. Before the spring term began, a similar process occurred, only this time 10 further spaces were created — four single rooms in Milliken Hall, four singles in Hadley Hall and one double in Gifford Hall — in order to accommodate students.

The changes, according to Hall-Kolts, were the result of a confluence of three main factors.

"Our pattern as of late has been to accept a higher number of students, and that has built up over the years," she said. "We are also seeing fewer students who fail out of school ... [and] we have fewer students choosing to study off campus."

Hall-Kolts also explained that recently, the College has sought to be more flexible with students in their late-semester requests to return to campus. This spring, in order to accommodate the increased numbers, it was necessary to convert lounges into dorm rooms. While many students who live within the rooms have adapted to their new spaces with little difficulty — many of the rooms are actually larger than their non-lounge counterparts — others within the residence halls have lamented the loss of the

communal spaces.

"We got pretty upset when we found out that we were going to lose the lounge," said Afi Yellow-Duke '15, a student who lives next door to one lounge-turned-dorm in Gifford. "It was a study space and a social space. That was where a lot of our friends came to hang out with us. It's really changed how I socialize in Gifford. It's hard to find spaces now."

Yellow-Duke explained that the recent conversion has left only one lounge

in Gifford as a social space in the dorm. She noted that while the Gifford annex provides a large space for organic gatherings, it is also a room that is often used by many non-Gifford residents for improv and theatre practices.

Stanis Moody-Roberts '11, the commons residential

advisor for Wonnacott Commons, elaborated on the challenges posed by the conversion.

"There are a lot of groups that use the Gifford annex lounge as a meeting space," he said. "We've had a lot of complaints because it is meant to be a study and recreation lounge. Students are having a hard time finding a space to do those things now."

In an email about the changes to Jonathan Miller-Lane, Wonnacott Commons head and associate professor of education studies, Moody-Roberts further described his concerns.

"Lounge space is an essential piece to community-building in a residential dorm — it is where people get together, make connections, interact and get to know each other," he wrote.

"It is also an inclusive and neutral space, open to everyone," continued Moody-Roberts. "A lounge is essential to building a more cohesive and less cliqu-

ey community, and to building a sense of hall identity."

Moody-Roberts provided Painter Hall and Starr Hall as examples of dorms with less lively communities as a result of the lack of lounge spaces.

"It is impossible to express how much good it does to a hall to have a lounge — you really do go from a "dead" hall of small cliques and private circles ... to a much more open and lively hall, where people hang out together as a whole, where everyone knows one another and talk to each other regardless of their social status/identity, where there develops a real sense of pride and identity around living in that hall and among that group of neighbors."

The most recent conversions bring the total number of former-lounge bedrooms in residence halls to 34, with other spaces having been converted in recent years in Coffrin Hall and Hepburn Hall in addition to Gifford, Milliken and Hadley Halls. The only commons not affected by the lounge conversions has been Cook Commons.

In addition to these changes, in 2010 the College also added residential spaces by converting Munford and Meeker Halls from offices into dorms.

While the increase in student numbers has created greater difficulty for the housing coordination staff, Hall-Kolts emphasized that student housing is not a simple calculation of finding spaces for all enrolled students.

"A bed is not always a bed," she explained. "We have our first-year beds, sophomore beds, super block beds and social interest house beds, among others."

Hall-Kolts explained that housing students is not merely a numbers question but a matter of seeking to find residential communities that best meet student needs.

"It becomes a real balancing act of whose interests are most important," she said.

Students join thousands at climate rally

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

mental activism.

"If Obama rejects it, he'll be the first leader to turn down a project on climate grounds — that's a legacy and also a way to convince other countries to do the right thing," said McKibben.

"We hope that the rally showed President Obama that he does have a huge amount of support from his constituents for him to take executive action on environmental issues, starting with the official denial of the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline," added Laura Berry '16, who was the student organizer for the trip to the rally.

Bristol emphasized that this rally was not an attempt to "bash" Obama, but merely to hold him to promises he previously made.

"For Obama, climate change is an issue he always says he is going to put as a priority, but we have yet to see action," said Bristol. "In the State of the Union, he said that if Congress does not take action on climate change, he would, and we need to hold him to that promise."

Prior to the rally, the group attended the Youth Convergence on Sunday morning, organized by the Sierra Student Coalition. Students had the opportunity to

meet with other college students to discuss steps they are taking to address environmental issues, as well as hear from speakers from 350.org and the Sierra Club.

"[There are] a lot of good lessons to learn about things you can do on your college campus," said Bristol.

Additionally, students working on the College's divestment campaign had the chance to meet with other student leaders from schools in the Investiture consortium — Dickinson, Smith and Barnard — to plan future efforts.

Divestment is the issue area where McKibben suggests that Middlebury students concerned about climate change should "work like crazy."

"Midd students have a lot of leverage right now to help with this crisis, if we can persuade our leaders on campus to do the right thing," he said.

Bristol believes students should work on promoting more nationwide movements like the "Forward On Climate" rally to generate political pressure for environmental issues.

"It will only be salient for our representatives if it's salient for the people," urged Bristol. "I think the best thing Middlebury College students can do is



COURTESY SHARIF PASHA

On Sunday, about 40,000 people attended the climate rally in Washington, D.C.

build that kind of movement, build that kind of pressure and do whatever they can do to stop what's happening."

Bristol added, "There is no longer an excuse for individuals to remain silent and complacent when it comes to environmental issues. Take just a moment to

think about your own plans for the future, and realize that if we as individuals continue to do nothing, there very well may not be a habitable planet to live on by the time we are our parents' age. Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better."

Vermont police investigate local break-ins

By Sam Simas

On Tuesday, Feb. 12, the Department of Public Safety received two separate reports of burglaries to college faculty houses, one in Middlebury and one in Cornwall, which are currently under investigation by the Middlebury Police and the Vermont State Police.

In a campus-wide email on Feb. 13, Associate Dean of the College and Director of Public Safety Elizabeth Burchard reported that one of the residences was on South Main Street, near the Ralph Myhre Golf Course, and the other off of Route 125 in Cornwall. Both burglaries were committed by unknown perpetrators.

Currently, the Middlebury Police has not identified any suspects, although Mid-

dlebury Chief of Police Tom Hanley wrote in an email that the police have processed the scene for latent prints and other evidence.

"Burglaries such as this are not common in Middlebury," wrote Hanley.

"There were a total of 19 burglaries in all of Middlebury in 2012, the lowest number in at least 30 years."

"There is a growing problem in the outer county," admitted Hanley, despite his optimism about the town of Middlebury itself. These two most recent incidents in Middlebury and Cornwall follow a spate of burglaries that have occurred recently in the northern end of Addison County.

According to the *Addison County Independent*, there were 16 reports of burglary in Addison County in the first four

weeks of January. The Middlebury Police is considering the possibility that these recent events are linked to other incidents in Addison County. Hanley wrote that the Middlebury Police Investigator is collaborating with the State Police trooper who is working on the Cornwall burglary. By working together they hope to catch the perpetrators more efficiently.

Some Addison residents have noticed the apparent rise in burglaries. "I seem to be hearing about more and more burglaries than ever before," commented Addison resident Don Jochum to the *Addison County Independent*.

The Vermont State Police has been working to implement more effective crime-fighting technology through the installation of Data-Driven Approach to

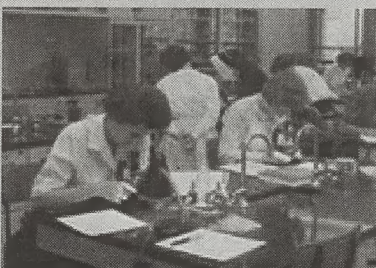
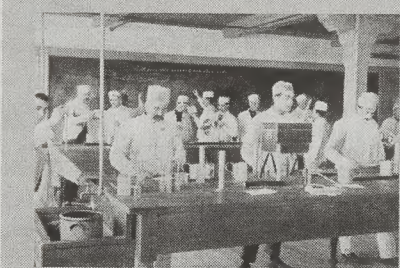
Crime and Traffic Safety, or DDACTS, according to the *Addison County Independent*. The technology should aid the police in limiting crime in the county.

"The hope of DDACTS is to go from being reactive to being proactive," Lieutenant Gary Genova of New Haven said of the new technology.

The program allows police to submit crime reports to a database that then compiles them onto one large map. This allows them to better spot trends and gaps in police coverage across the state.

Although technology plays a role in keeping crime levels down, so do ordinary residents. In order to deter perpetrators, Hanley suggested that people remain vigilant, report suspicious activity and keep their homes secure.

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Vt. moves to legalize physician-assisted suicide

By Conor Grant

Montpelier, Vt. — Last Thursday, the Vermont state Senate passed a bill by a margin of 22-8 to allow Vermont physicians to help terminally-ill patients take lethal dosages of prescription drugs.

Passage of the bill came only after many hours of debate in a deeply divided senatorial chamber. Although the bill passed by a considerable margin on Thursday, the bill narrowly avoided termination the previous Tuesday after the Senate voted 17-13 against the judiciary committee's recommendation to kill the bill.

The bill now moves on to the Vermont House — which will either pass the bill with the changes made by the Senate, or make changes of its own.

If the House passes the bill, Vermont will become only the third state to legalize physician-assisted suicide, behind Oregon and Washington.

"The Vermont legislature is poised to pass an Oregon-like Death with Dignity bill," reported George Eighmey of the Death With Dignity National Center (DDNC) on Feb. 6.

The debate about physician-assisted suicide first exploded onto the American legal scene in 1906 when a piece of legislation calling for the legalization of physician-assisted euthanasia was introduced to the General Assembly of Ohio.

In 1999 the highly publicized conviction of Jacob Kevorkian — a highly controversial Michigan medical practitioner who spearheaded a movement for medical euthanasia and was dubbed "Dr. Death" by critics — brought the issue of assisted suicide to the national fore.

Today, contention surrounding the issue continues — beginning with the very name given to the process. Critics of the

process call it "assisted suicide," while proponents call it "death with dignity."

Proponents of the principle emphasize that people have "the right to die," and that the process can save patients from tremendous amounts of pain and suffering. These people also claim that reasonable laws can be constructed to safeguard human life and ensure that death with dignity would only occur in appropriate cases.

The DDNC rigidly defines the demographic of patients who are eligible for death with dignity.

"We advocate for ... physician-assisted death," said the DDNC in an official release. "Terminally-ill patients who are mentally competent to make their own medical care decisions may request a prescription of medication to hasten their deaths."

Critics of the process of "assisted suicide" claim that the process would put undue pressure on terminally ill patients and their families to pull the plug, and that the process would allow for unnecessary deaths and other abuses. Critics also stress the fact that doctors will have too much power.

The state of Oregon became the first to explicitly sanction physician-assisted suicide with the passage of the Death with Dignity Act in 1994. Since that time, referendums have occurred in numerous states, but only the state of Washington — which passed a Death with Dignity Act in 2008 — has achieved legal success.

As Vermont draws one step closer to joining the ranks of Oregon and Washington with the passage of the legislation last week, it is important to critically examine the language of the legislation as a way to understand the two sides of the debate.



COURTESY OF VTDOIGER

Sen. Ann Cummings (D), recently proposed an amendment to shorten the original bill.

When introduced last Tuesday, the bill considered by the Vermont Senate was a comprehensive program for end-of-life care in Vermont — one that allowed for the prescription of life-ending drugs to terminally-ill patients with less than six months to live.

The bill passed on Tuesday in its comprehensive form when four previously undecided Senate members chose to vote in favor of the bill to continue the discussion.

On Wednesday, however, Sen. Peter Galbraith (D) and Sen. Bob Hartwell (D) halted the easy passage of the bill by proposing an amendment that radically altered the extensive bill. The amendment replaced the lengthy bill that would have allowed the prescription of life-ending drugs with a brief substitute bill that simply gives legal protection to doctors whose patients self-administer lethal doses of drugs.

When consideration of the bill resumed on Thursday, the rhetoric in support of both sides of the argument was impassioned. Senate members recommended a number of amendments, all of which were debated at great length.

Two final amendments emerged — one that was put forth by Sen. John Rodgers (D) and one that was advanced by Sen. Ann Cummings (D). Rodgers's bill restored much of the original text of the bill, while Cummings's greatly abbreviated it. Rodgers's bill contains many safeguards designed to protect Vermonters from mis-

use of the death with dignity option, while Cummings' shortened bill focused instead on limiting the scope of the bill.

After an intermission designed to safely lower heart rates, members of the Senate chose Cummings's pared-down version of the bill and approved it to be sent through to the House.

While proponents of the initial bill were disappointed by the outcome because of the watered-down language of the final product, proponents of physician-assisted euthanasia see the passage of the bill through the Senate as a step in the right direction.

In an interview with Seven Days reporter Paul Heintz, Sen. Dick Sears (D) expressed his satisfaction with the proceedings of the Senate, if not with the outcome.

"I'd have rather seen the bill die," said Spears. "But I think the system worked as it was designed. All sides were heard and, in the end, the bill passed."

It is likely that the House will make sweeping changes to the legislation due to the haste with which the changes to the bill were made and the highly abbreviated nature of the product.

Many commentators expect that much of the original language and content of the bill will be restored, while others expect the House to maintain the sparse language and limited scope of the amended legislation. Either way, the House faces an important decision with numerous ramifications for end-of-life care for Vermonters.



COURTESY OF AHS NUCLEAR CAFE

Sen. Dick Sears (D) is an opponent of the amendment to the Death with Dignity Bill.

LOCAL 24 LOWDOWN

Weatherization Workshop in Middlebury

Come to the Hannaford Career Center for hands-on training in the basics of improving your home's efficiency. Includes free text and lunch. Info: www.weatherizationskillshop.com. Pre-registration is optional; email middenergy@gmail.com.

FEB. 23, 9 A.M. - 4 P.M.

Klondike Gold Rush Presentation in Vergennes

Hiker/backpacker Ivor Hughes recounts his journey along the prospecting route up the Seattle coast, through Canada and to Alaska in "The Klondike Gold Rush: A Nostalgic Journey to Retrace the Prospectors' Footsteps" at Bixby Library.

FEB. 21, 7 P.M. - 9 P.M.

Yarn-making Class in Orwell

Learn how to make your own yarn at the Orwell Free Library! The professional yarn artist Jeanie Roberts will demonstrate the process of turning fiber right off the animal into yarn off the spinning wheel this Saturday. Attendees can take a turn at the carder or try drop-spindling.

FEB. 23, 9 A.M. - 11 A.M.

Lenten Fish Fry in Bristol

Come to the fourteenth annual Lenten all-you-can-eat fish fry at the St. Ambrose Church in Bristol. Enjoy haddock, fries, coleslaw, beverage and dessert. Adults \$12, children under 11 \$5, immediate family of five \$35. For info call 802-453-2488.

FEB. 22, 5 P.M. - 7 P.M.

Leaf, Ladle and Loaf Dinner in Brandon

Hankering for a hearty bowl of soup? Come to the Brandon Congregational Church to enjoy one of the many soups (there were 23 last year), breads, beverages, salads and brownies and ice cream. Adults \$10, youth 5-12 \$5, under 5 free. For more information call 802-247-6121 or 802-247-4130.

FEB. 23, 5 P.M. - 7 P.M.

Table of Grace Free Meal in Vergennes

Enjoy chicken and biscuits with stuffing, peas, cranberry sauce and dessert at the Vergennes Congregational Church this Friday. The dinner is sponsored by the North Ferrisburgh United Methodist, St. Paul's Episcopal, Vergennes Congregational and St. Peter's churches. Free, but donations accepted.

FEB. 22, 5:30 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.

Pete Sutherland and Josh Brooks in Concert in Bristol

Swing by the WalkOver gallery at 15 Main Street in Bristol this Saturday to listen to two popular Vermont musicians perform original works. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, available at 802-533-3188, ext. 2, at walkover@mac.com or at the door.

FEB. 23, 8 P.M. - 10 P.M.

Charlotte solar panel array generates controversy

By Erin Petry

Despite the immense benefits of solar energy — it can be used to generate electricity for domestic, commercial or industrial purposes — recent developments in the solar energy industry are a concern for many residents of Charlotte, Vt.

The Vermont Public Service Board (PSB) recently approved a request by Charlotte Solar to build a 2.2-megawatt solar array in a field on the north side of the Charlotte-Hinesburg Road in Charlotte, Vt.

Many Charlotte residents who live close to the field where the panels will be built are disappointed with the PSB's decision. Elizabeth Bassett, Charlotte resident and homeowner of 25 years, is particularly upset by recent solar developments.

Bassett was one of six Charlotte residents who hired an attorney, William Ellis, to represent their case.

Bassett and her neighbors have spent a lot of money trying to prevent the solar array request from passing. She and others feel that the town "let them down" by passing the proposal.

Residents of Charlotte have lodged numerous complaints that the Public Service Board has managed the project poorly. At the first and only town meeting, Charlotte residents voiced their concerns to the Selectboard. After this occasion, no further public meetings were held. Bassett notes that the Selectboard was "non-communicative" and "never once had a discussion that wasn't an executive meeting."

Concerns about the solar array's potential impact on home values are abundant.

"You can't tell me that 14 acres of metal surrounded by a fence a few hundred feet away from a home isn't going to decrease the house's value," said Bas-

sett. Moreover, many residents voice concerns that the solar array will disrupt their "view shed."

The Town of Charlotte hired David Raphael — owner of LandWorks, a firm that conducts aesthetic assessments — to review the proposal on behalf of the town.

"The project, with some specific mitigation measures implemented, and approval conditions with regard to siting, operation and decommissioning, satisfies the criteria and standards in place for aesthetics and land use," said Raphael.

After reviewing available materials, critiquing layout, providing and addressing conformance with community standards, Raphael says that the project passes aesthetic standards.

While Raphael believes the PSB made the right decision given the circumstances of both the site and the proposal, he does not dismiss the neighbors' worries. He remarks that there are justifiable concerns regarding placing a large-scale solar array in an agricultural open space; for example, fields no longer being available for agricultural use and industrial elements being incompatible in a rural agrarian landscape.

"The immediate neighbors are the most distressed by these types of projects, and they certainly have some basis for that — the look, feel and sense of place in a neighborhood can be altered by large scale energy projects such as this one," said Raphael.

Residents who live close to the solar array are further peeved that the solar energy benefits an out-of-state corporation. The field where the panels will be installed is owned by the trust of Clark Hinsdale Jr., whose son is working with an out-of-state developer (Massachusetts-based American Capital Energy) to build the panels.

Indeed, according to Raphael, "the



COURTESY OF CHARLOTTE LAND TRUST

The Charlotte field pictured at center will be the site of a controversial future solar array.

developers see a financial return from such a project." With plenty of sunlight, the property is certainly ideal for such a project.

However, many who live close to the targeted field believe the Massachusetts corporation does not value Vermont's beauty and the many generations it has taken to nurture the land.

"This is simply the wrong project, in the wrong place, at the wrong time," said Bassett.

The question then becomes, what would be the "right" place for such a project?

Bassett suggested that solar panels should be installed above a parking lot, such as those that were installed above the parking lot of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Burlington in January 2012. The lack of consideration of such an idea exposes a real problem in the Vermont PSB system — out-of-state developer come in with plans and the PSB cannot make alternative suggestions, ex-

plained Bassett.

This plan will have an impact that spreads well beyond the town of Charlotte. Raphael noted that it will undoubtedly create a precedent for large-scale solar installations in rural agricultural settings and adjacent to residential neighborhoods.

"Unless the town changes its town plan and corresponding zoning, it does open the door for future installations of similar size and placement," he said.

Bassett added that a lot of people are angry and scared — if a 14-acre industrial solar is installed in a field like this, there is no place that is safe.

Bassett noted that the energy and pollution problem is a global issue, and installing an enormous solar array in a small Vermont town isn't the solution. Opposition to the solar development project, Bassett added, does not imply a lack of responsibility to clean up the environment and promote sustainable energy.

Connecting with Community

Some of the many ways Middlebury students get involved in the surrounding area

Coming up this weekend on Sunday, Feb. 24, a local poverty-fighting organization called HOPE will host the fundraiser "Ski and Ride for HOPE" at the Snowbowl and the Rikert Nordic Center in Middlebury, Vt. The Middlebury Campus interviewed Sue Byers, the vice-chair of the board for the organization, about the event.

Middlebury Campus: How are you involved with this project?

Sue Byers: I am vice-chair of the board at HOPE, or Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects. It's an Addison County not-for-profit that seeks to reduce the effects of poverty in Addison County. We try to take care of essential needs such as food, fuel and housing; but we also try to give people the resources they need to take care of themselves for the longer term.

MC: Can you tell me about your organization's upcoming event?

SB: It's called "Ski and Ride for HOPE." The event is on Sunday, Feb. 24, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. We're trying out this fundraiser. It's our first time doing this kind of event. We're hoping to attract skiers — cross-country and downhill. The idea is to come out and have fun and raise money for hope.

MC: Where will it be held?

SB: It's going to be held at both the Snowbowl and at Rikert.

MC: So if I were a participant, how would I sign-up and what should I expect?

SB: You go on the HOPE website and it will have a link that will lead you to the description and the registration form. What you'd expect is that you can go any time between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.; you have to register by noon because the prizes are given not for races or distances but for the most money raised in pledges. The top six people will have their choice of the prizes, which are very impressive. They're good prizes. If you register by 12, you can ski from 12 until 2, but we will know who has raised the most money by noon.

At the end, at two o'clock, there will be an awards party at the Rikert Nordic Center with chili, cornbread, brownies, and [the acapella group] Stuck in the Middle will be performing.

MC: As you said, this is your first time doing a fundraiser like this. What pushed you in this direction?

SB: Organizations are always going crazy looking for fundraisers; we had done several things in the past, but we were looking for something that would be interesting and a little different. One

of our board members came up with this idea; she and her husband had done this for a couple of other organizations.

MC: How are you hoping to involve Middlebury?

SB: Well, of course, we'd love to have Middlebury students participate. Besides skiing, they could snowboard or snowshoe, just get out there on the mountain or the loops at Rikert and have a good time doing as much or as little as they want to, but also knowing they're raising money for a very good cause. They'll all get a free \$20-value Burton beanie and a free raffle ticket for all prizes not chosen by the top six winners. We have prizes such as downhill and Nordic Fischer skis. We have passes at Killington, Okemo, and Stowe. We have an overnight at the Trapp Family Lodge. And lots of others. The Grand Raffle Prize is two nights at Blueberry Hill Inn with dinner and passes (good for any season).

MC: Sounds like a lot of cool stuff. Tell me more about what HOPE has been working on.

SB: Well, we run at the HOPE building a large store called Retroworks. They have household good and furniture, appliances, clothing, books, DVDs and more. It's open to the public, but those in need can apply for vouchers to shop there for free. If they need a toaster or a

sofa, if they need clothing, they can get what they need. The general public shops there a lot so it has become a major income source for our other programs. Most of the items are donated by local people — we'd love to have Midd students keep us in mind, both for donating and shopping.

We also have the HOPE Food Shelf. Last year, we provided over 54,000 meals, assisted 69 working families with fuel payments and car repairs, gathered and distributed 19,000 pounds of locally grown produce (with the help of Midd students), sheltered 19 homeless people, and gave vouchers for gasoline and medical needs.

Individuals come to HOPE because they have no where else to go. We offer whatever we are able to offer — in some cases simply a shower, a clean set of clothes, a couple of bags of groceries.

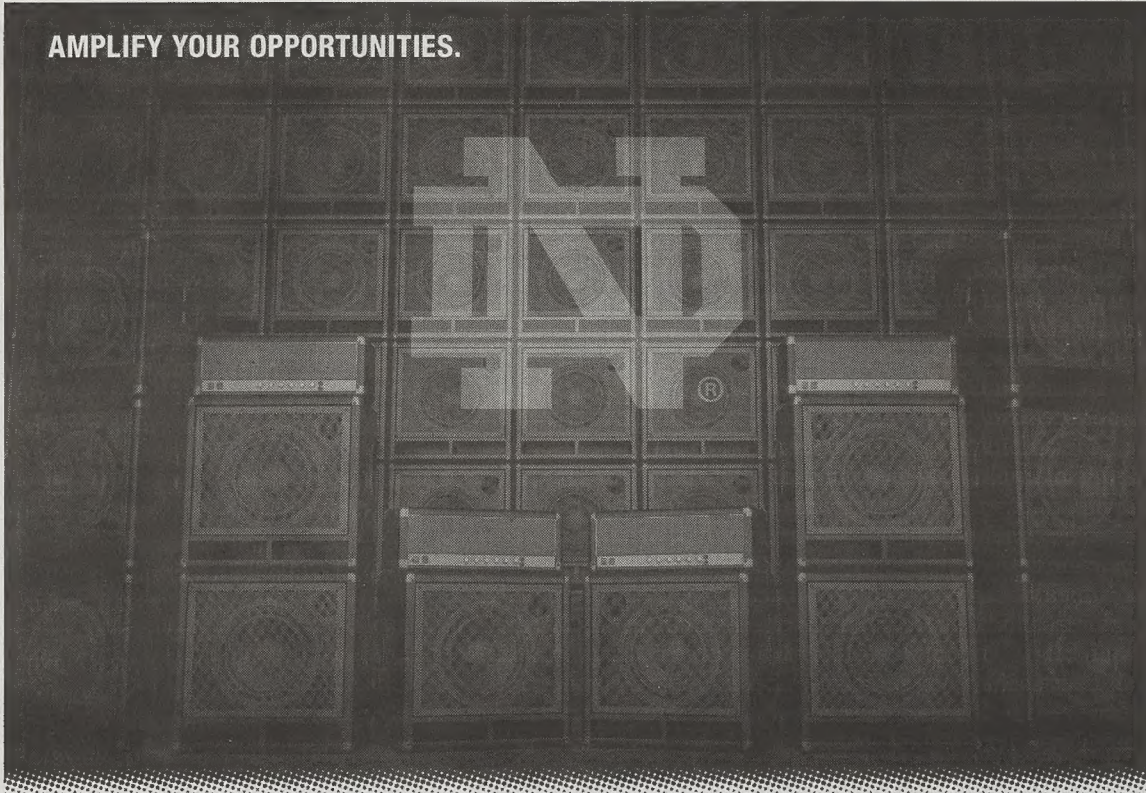
We serve people who, in foster care lingo, fall between the cracks.

Hope
Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects

COURTESY OF SUE BYERS

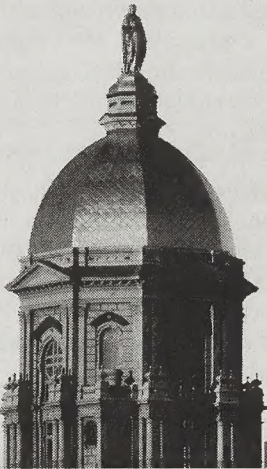
HOPE will host a ski event this Sunday.

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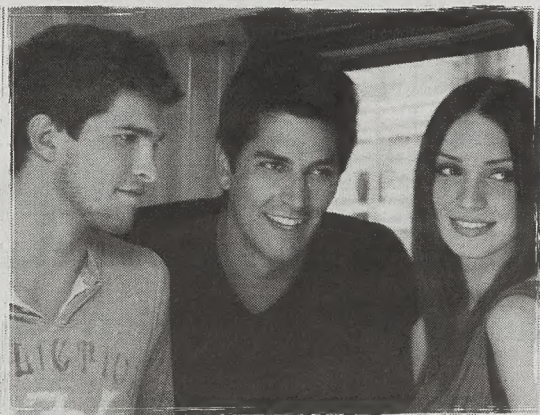
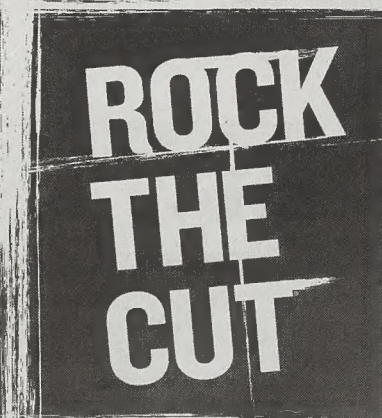


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OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

Park at your own (\$50) risk

The recent increase in fines for parking violations — from \$10 to \$50 for a single ticket — brings our attention to the complex relationship between students and Public Safety officials at the College. Public Safety plays an important role

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* as decided by the editorial board.

by protecting students, faculty and staff and working tirelessly to ensure that the college community is safe, an aspect of our lives here that we too often take for granted. Clearly, parking rules are required in a college community, and proper punishment for breaking those rules is entirely appropriate. Logically speaking, raising the fines associated with parking violations may be effective in reducing the

number of tickets issued and ensuring compliance. However, while we recognize the need for greater adherence to parking rules and understand the intentions behind Public Safety's action, in this instance we believe the punishment is disproportionately harsh for the crime.

A fine of \$50 for a one-time parking violation represents a five-fold increase from the previous fine, a notable rise in a cost for students. The fact

that this increase has taken effect when parking is already officially limited due to construction across campus is also problematic. In addition, the all-student email Public Safety sent out failed to adequately explain why reducing the discrepancy between ticket prices and towing costs necessitated an increase in parking fines. For all those whom this change may affect, the rationale behind such action needs further clarification.

There are a variety of ways to address parking problems, each of which would more appropriately decrease violations than the recent fine increase. The goal of these suggestions is simple: to better align the severity of the punishment with the extent of the crime. Public Safety could still increase ticket prices, but to a lesser degree; a \$20 fine, for example, may be enough to alter student behavior while also demonstrating greater consideration for student finances. Public Safety could also clarify the parking rules by providing comprehensive maps of campus parking lots and designated spots on its website. Posting such maps in dining halls and academic buildings at the beginning of each semester would also provide the student body with more access to this information. Another option would be to raise the number of violations students may receive before their cars are officially kicked off campus. Finally, to increase accountability, students should be able to pay their parking tickets directly; currently, fines are automatically billed to the student's account and the true cost may not be felt by the person who violated parking rules.

Above all, we ask that Public Safety be reasonable when issuing tickets for parking violations. If an upperclassman's vehicle is parked for a short period of time in an otherwise

empty lot reserved for sophomores, for example, a fine of \$50 may not be necessary; a one-time warning would likely be enough to alter that student's future parking decisions. For the sake of the relationship between Public Safety and students, it is important that the College value the spirit of the law rather than the letter of the law.

Stepping back, we recognize that the ability to have a car on campus is a privilege for students, one that is inherently tied to a simple responsibility: park in the appropriate spot. Not every college allows all students to have cars on campus, and Middlebury students, first-years in particular, are especially lucky in this regard. As student drivers, we are stakeholders not only in the parking system, but also in the broader college community. Parking compliance is a sign of respect for others who use campus lots, as well as for Public Safety officials who monitor the parking lots and issue fines for violations.

While owning a car may be a privilege, it is an important aspect of life in a rural setting such as Vermont. Having a car, or a friend with a car, expands the Middlebury bubble, as it enables trips off campus to explore Burlington for the day or hike Snake Mountain, for example. We care about parking because it has logistical implications. Do I have to park far from my dorm? Can I make it to my class in time if I'm driving back from off-campus? We know that Public Safety is aware of these student concerns and appreciate their efforts to foster a better parking system on campus. However, we ask that the punishment fit the crime and that the rationale behind such changes be better communicated in the future.

The Middlebury Campus

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What's missing in neo-missing

Last week I experienced the curious feeling of missing someone. I actually didn't realize I missed this person (who I will call Django) until I made what I then thought was an arbitrary and mindless decision to call him. When I hung up the phone I was overcome by an unexpected sensation of loss and surprised myself by applying that precious term of missing to the situation.

The curiosity surrounding missing lies in the duality of its nature. First, it is an emotion that we cannot experience independently. Unlike sadness or anger which can be internalized, missing needs a direct object whether it be a time of life, a person or a favorite red beanie chock-full of sentimental value (last seen 02/16/13, Palmer House).

The second aspect of missing's duality is that it functions as both a remedy and a solution. The phone call serves as a perfect example. I called Django because I missed him; I missed him because I called him. Often missing is identified only in the past tense. "I missed you guys!" has become my opening one-liner upon returning home and seeing my parents. But what does that really mean? I missed you, but I'm only realizing it now. I was actually fairly competent on my own. It seems like a complete waste of emotion. But that's only for the emotionally dehydrated.

I believe that missing, even in its retrospective form comes from a genuine place. It's not easy to generate an organic missing from scratch. And why should it be? Social as humans may be, we've still got an evolutionary battle to win and it wouldn't make sense for us to be wired in a way that roots us to things we can't have. Adaptable individuals that we are, we busy ourselves with the pres-

ent and the immediate.

But it's not fail-proof. Just listen to the song "Hey There, Delilah." As we go about our lives we subject ourselves to an onslaught of stimuli, some of which may pluck you tick-off-the-back-of-a-dog, arms-flailing style right out of the happy present moment. In this uncomfortable state of free fall down Memory Lane, which turns out to be sloped at a sheer 75 degree angle and coated in black ice, we tap into survival mode. Your body computer runs a series of algorithms in an effort to fuse the past and present and get you to some underground railroad installment on Memory Lane. The product manifests itself subtly in a phone call or a well-drafted Facebook message. Eventually it resolves in a simple acknowledgment that takes a variety of linguistic forms including, "I miss you" or maybe "I meeeesssss youuuuuuuu." All that just to pull the trigger to start the cycle again. Perhaps aspiring vegetarians can identify with this phenomenon. Eliminating such divinities as BLTs or chicken parmesan from your diet is an all or nothing kind of deal. Pacifying the cravings with an infrequent "treat yourself" kind of day only refuels the fire and each subsequent craving will come back with increasing desire. In the least cannibalistic way, we have to keep the taste of what we know we miss fresh in order to miss it.

Facebook provides bountiful quantities of these tastes in its Costco-free-sample-for-matted newsfeed. So often we are reminded of the things we miss that it's possible we're becoming habituated to that unsettling, my-skis-are-coming-apart feeling of straddling the past and present. Mr. Zuckerberg taunts us by refusing to take things out of sight and

therefore out of mind, but also treats us by offering an emotional shortcut.

The result is a bloated and somewhat distorted version of missing. French and other languages preserve the weightiness of the verb "to miss" with vocabulary and sentence structure. In English we can miss both the nine o'clock bus and the granola that is no longer available at Proctor dinner. The French came up with two distinct words that more accurately reflect the vastly different emotional states of these scenarios. With regards

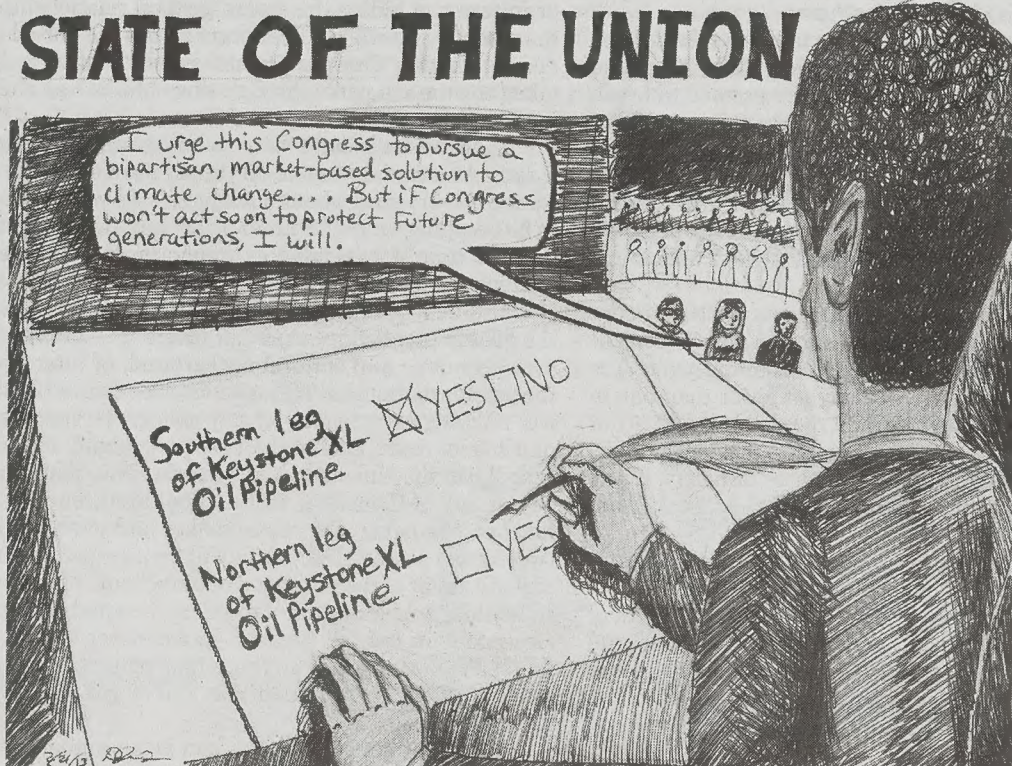
to the granola, where Anglophones would say, "I miss you," francophones say "Tu me manques," which literally translates to "You are missing to me." Clumsy and indirect as it may sound, it implies a kind of missing puzzle piece image that I think more earnestly conveys the emotion. You were a part of me and now you are gone and I feel emptiness where you once were, it says. A *New Yorker* comic's depiction of yin sitting on the edge of a hotel room bed puts it nicely too. Yin is on the phone and there's a speech bubble reading, "I miss you too."

I don't blame Facebook. I don't miss missing people. Missing is an evolving emotional field. Maybe it's only the appropriate language distinction that is missing, so that we can better account for the emotional disparity between missing the 9 o'clock bus, missing high school (but only after revisiting a Facebook album titled "STUDDYY HALL '09") and yin missing yang.

READER OP-ED

Meredith White '15 is
from Orinda, Calif.

STATE OF THE UNION



Divestment: no excuse for inaction

It became clear in just a few days here over J-term that the issue of divestment has captured the imagination of the Middlebury population. In a school full of aspiring investors, targeting the endowment is a clever approach, and divestment is not a bad idea. It is the height of hypocrisy to rail against climate change while using the enormous value of the companies that enable it as the source of our funding, akin to a police officer driving drunk or a minister with a mistress. When we profit from the success

APPLY LIBERALLY

Zach Drennen '13.5 is an opinions editor from Canandaigua, N.Y.

of oil and coal companies, any carbon emissions that we achieve as a community are essentially greenwashing, a gesture devoid of meaning. The students who pitched the concept to the trustees last weekend have worked hard to make their case to the broader community and to ensure that the change wouldn't hurt the College's bottom line. If all goes well, the trustees will respond favorably in the coming weeks and we can jump into new issues with equal enthusiasm. What we cannot do is to declare victory and then return to complacency.

It is important to ensure that we do not become so caught up in this one issue that we lose focus on the things that we can change within our own lives and as a community to reduce the impact of global climate change. If successful, divestment will earn Middlebury headlines from this paper and many more national outlets. It will bring years of positive publicity to this institution and bring our funding in line with our goals. But at the same time, buying a share of ExxonMobile, or AEP or Chesapeake does not bring those companies a dime. Their funding comes not from the stock market but from the fuel that we purchase.

Divestment has important symbolic value but will neither fix climate change nor bankrupt the dealers that exist purely to respond to our addiction to cheap and dirty energy. We cannot turn to divestment simply because changing our own habits is too difficult or because it provides the enormous battle against global climate catastrophe with an eas-

ily defined villain. To sit back and attack them while we use their product every day is an even worse form of hypocrisy than to take their money while trying to break the addiction — the moral equivalent of a heroin addict taking pot shots at his dealer while mainlining his product.

Divestment may have helped to end apartheid in South Africa, according to Desmond Tutu, but in that case, companies targeted by disgruntled investors could simply shift their operations in order to avoid patronizing a racist regime. Enterprises that exist exclusively to produce oil have no such flexibility; even BP no longer pretends to be "beyond petroleum." The only product they produce is one that we must soon finish consuming.

Divestment may have helped to remove the social license for tobacco companies to operate, reducing them to second-class corporate citizens with little public support or lobbying pull. But without public antismoking campaigns, it would have accomplished nothing other than to make their stock a cheaper purchase for less scrupulous investors. And still, even here in the Middlebury bubble, far too many students who know about the dangers of tobacco can't resist the occasional cigarette, or two, or five. Unfortunately, the same goes for gasoline.

Let's not pretend that climate change will be defeated by lurching between sexy sideshows that

require little from the average person beyond vague outrage. The only way to truly cut into the obscene profits of oil companies is to cease buying their product. We need to turn off the lights and the unused electronics in our dorm rooms, and close our windows when the heat is on. We must choose to walk or ride bikes instead of driving, to put solar panels on our roofs and to install wind turbines in our fields and backyards. We need to ensure that Middlebury actually accomplishes the goal of becoming carbon neutral. Some of these steps are challenging and may require expensive upfront investments. But all are entirely possible with today's technology if we remain focused and committed, recognizing that measures like divestment are just small stepping stones along the way and that corporations are not solely to blame. They would have no influence without eager customers for their product.

"The only way to truly cut into the obscene profits of oil companies is to cease buying their product."

Horsemeat and gypsies: the new state-endorsed xenophobia

Romania joined the European Union on Jan. 1, 2007. Despite adhering three years after the majority of Eastern European countries, the country is still considered to be part of the fifth wave of expansion. The delay was due to widespread concern surrounding Romania's high-level of organized crime and corruption. That pre-existing conception was the first example from a long-list of instances of state hate.

The European Union's big shots did not trust that Romania was ready in 2004, yet now, six years after it joined them as an equal member state, Romania is nevertheless still picked upon and is the subject of extreme mistrust. Three years ago a lot of noise was made over Nicolas Sarkozy's plan to remove the "social burden" represented by the Roma (an ethnic minority from Romania, commonly known as travelers or gypsies). The Roma had arrived in France from Romania by taking full advantage of the European freedom of circulation. Sarkozy, then President of France, went about their extradition by offering the unwanted settlers a cash payment in order to persuade them to get on "specially chartered" flights back to Romania. Some members of the European hierarchy identified the move as part of a frightening "resurgence of xenophobia," comparing it to events "not seen since the second World War." Despite that crude but just attack, nothing concrete happened. The French police were unashamedly allowed to target and deport Roma settlers.

"Why don't you come over?"

Earlier this year some scare-mongering appeared in the British press over the fact that the British government's ban on job-seeking migrants from Romania will expire next year. In retaliation a Romanian news-site released an advertisement taunting the British with a "Why don't you come over?" slogan, bragging that half of their women looked like Princess Kate, Duchess of Cambridge, whilst the other half looked like her much adored, and nigh on sex symbol sister Pippa. Despite the crude means, the argument was valid. The European Union allows the free movement of persons across its borders. Any move by governments to counteract such essential principles can only ever be short-term and thus wholly ineffective. All it can do is raise tensions and give legal grounding for future xenophobia.

So hungry I could eat a horse.

Another European story recently brought Romania into the media spotlight — that of the horse-meat scandal. Over the last few weeks dozens of products have been taken off supermarket shelves across Europe after it was discovered that many foods supposedly containing beef actually had traces of horse-meat in them. In some cases, it was much more than traces, with 100 percent horse-meat found in some Findus products and 60 percent in the extremely popular tesco beef lasagne. All kinds of frozen beef burgers were found to contain elements of equine DNA and were also removed from supermarkets. Distributors in both France and England promptly pointed the blame at Romanian distributors. Unfortunately and foolishly, this accusation was made without clear proof or contacting those distributors. Romanian politicians were rightly offended and expressed deep outrage.

Is this all scape-goating, with the most developed and well-establish members of the European club finding easy pickings in the form of the Union's newest member? Or does it represent a much deeper fear of others, with especially the Romanians and their gypsies taking the full brunt of the blame? It is possible that since the previous 2004 wave of migrant workers many countries have realized that some aspects of the European plan do not actually benefit them. Although the European ideal of free movement across borders sought to equalize the power dynamic across Europe, in recent years it has in fact accentuated the divide between the richer and poorer states. The most ambitious workmen leave their native countries to pick up menial but better playing jobs in western Europe. Any mass influx of foreign workers would in theory cause massive pressure on local employment and wage levels. Native populations have grown increasingly hostile towards those who come and "take their jobs" per se, and this has led to a notable rise in far-right votes. Thus, Romania has unfortunately become a political punching-bag. Instead of the actual migrants being subjected to localized discrimination, it is the entire population, the entire state.

EYES ON THE OUTSIDE

Jack Apollo George '16 is from London, U.K.

THE FANHOOD PROBLEM

This past Saturday during Winter Carnival, everybody and their mother showed up to the Snow Bowl, rowdy and retro and revved up to support the ski team. It was a sight to behold: dozens of kids tailgating in the parking lot, snagging free popcorn samples and trekking up the mountain to reach the "cheering zone." Despite the wipeouts (myriad) and the cold (manageable), everyone present had what ze Germans refer to as a *superfunthyme*.

And yet, if one were to actually tally up the number of Midd Kids who showed up to the mountain, he or she would be hard pressed to break 200. Fewer than one-tenth of the Middlebury student body showed up to the races, despite the fact that the entire reason Winter Carnival exists is to celebrate the ski team's only home

race of the year.

If one takes a step back and looks at the big picture here, the issue is clear: Middlebury does a woefully negligent job promoting its athletics. The Winter Carnival races are the perfect example. In order to get fewer than one in 12 students to show up to their race, the ski team had to put up posters themselves, doing their best to plaster the walls of Proctor, McCullough etc. with pictures of racers, funny quotes and friendly reminders that yes, in fact, the ski team has a race this weekend.

After killing themselves year-round as Middlebury's only D1 athletes (get out of here, squash), getting up at six a.m. every morning of winter term to train while the rest of campus slumbered drunkenly and traveling every weekend to ski at other schools' home mountains, the ski team had to run around campus putting up posters of themselves. They were essentially begging people to take the time to show them a little love.

This problem is far from unique to the ski team; indeed, every athletics team on campus is forced to do their own advertising. From hanging posters to making Facebook events, it is up to the teams to let people know that "WE HAVE A GAME — PLEASE COME!" The school provides very little advertising or general support to its teams in terms of fostering fan support and school spirit or in terms of aiding the teams' general relationship with the campus as a whole. The sports games are buried in the dense, lengthy "Campus Events" emails that nobody has taken the time to parse through since Moses was blubbing in the bulrushes.

These athletes don't want to be advertising their own events. As a friend of mine on the ski team said, "we don't want to be bragging about ourselves — we want the school to be bragging for us!" Humor aside, he's right. The school doesn't "brag" for its athletes, publicize athletic events effectively or do much of anything to promote its teams.

Middlebury is an incredible place. Our *sine qua non*, the quality that defines us, is our diversity — of thought, of socioeconomic and cultural background, of interests. But the flipside to that coin is that we lose out on one of the central unifying experiences for any college: fervent fanhood of a school team. One of the best parts about attending a school like the University of Colorado, Ohio State University or any of their large state-school brethren is that the butcher, the baker, the music maker and everyone in between has a powerful connection to their respective university as a result of their fanhood of the school's sports teams. In Boulder, whole swaths of town are deserted on Saturday afternoons in the fall because you're either watching the football game, or you're getting a beer poured on your noggin by someone who's mad that you're not watching the football game.

Strong athletics programs can be an unmatched uni-

fying force when effectively utilized by a school. And the frustrating thing is that here at Midd, our sports teams are without a doubt good enough to galvanize the community. And yet year after year, they go uncelebrated, toiling away in relative anonymity while they should be having their achievements yodeled from the mountaintops. Every year, one or two teams are NESCAC or national champions; every year one or two individual athletes are the best in their sports. Unfortunately, much of campus probably doesn't know that.

A more aggressive stance toward championing athletics wouldn't just help unify the school or the community — it would also surely benefit the College's alumni relations, which in turn results in financial improvements. When alumni wish to stay up to date with their alma mater, it's not like they say, "Oh boy, I wonder what's going on with the economics department! Oh, they hired a new Macro Theory professor? Yippee!" Much of the time, alumni are following a sports team. If Middlebury's current students become more involved in and pumped about sports teams, they are sure to maintain that passion in post-college life (non-life? vapid and boring existence?), and remain more involved with the school, donating more and contributing to the College in any number of ways.

I'm not here to propose a solution. I don't know how the College should fix what I like to call its Fanhood Problem. Weekly athletic event emails, school-sponsored posters, separate poster space for athletic teams in public spaces, personal visits from Leibo to the freshman halls to play flipcup and chat about basketball — I don't know how the school should fix the problem. I just know that the problem definitely exists.

If we don't fix it, than Middlebury's greatest strength — its diversity — will continue to be one of its greatest weaknesses. And I, for one, would hate to see that happen.

RED'S RANT

Caleb Cunningham '14 is from Boulder, Colo.

CALLING ON THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO DIVEST

Last Saturday morning, the seven of us gave a 45-minute presentation in front of the full Board of Trustees advocating for divestment of Middlebury's endowment from the fossil fuels and weapons manufacturing industries. We spoke for the hundreds of students across campus who have expressed their support of divestment. In this column, we seek to sum up our argument, using direct quotes from our transcript.

Jeannie Bartlett: We're here today to talk about divesting Middlebury's endowment holdings from fossil fuels and weapons manufacturing industries. Divestment will include making a public commitment early this spring, freezing investments in those industries and being completely out by 2016, the same time we fulfill carbon neutrality.

Laura Berry: One of our major concerns is the presence of weapons-related violence in this world. From the stagnant rate of firearm murders in the U.S. and the mass tragedies such as the Sandy Hook Massacre and the Aurora theatre shooting, the horrifying presence of firearm related violence in the U.S. is more evident than ever.

Teddy Smyth: In the Copenhagen Accord, the world agreed: the highest "safe" temperature rise is two degrees Celsius. If we burn through all of our reserves, as currently projected, we will exceed the amount of carbon we can "safely" burn five times over. So we're left with a choice: either we continue burning through our reserves and blow past the two-degree target, or we lock up a large portion of the carbon reserves worldwide.

Craig Thompson: According to Investure's December 2012 review of our endowment, 3.6 percent of our portfolio is invested in fossil fuels and 0.6 percent is invested in weapons manufacturers. This is the part of our portfolio we believe that Middlebury should divest. Research by HSBC, the United Nations, Mercer, Aperio Group and McKinsey among others support the notion that the predicted "cost" of divestment is likely insignificant. In the Divestment Panel in McCullough last month, Mark Kritzman, professor at MIT Sloan School of Management, presented a largely theoretical paper he wrote titled "The Cost of Divestment." Mr. Kritzman's analysis does not mention risk or risk-adjusted returns and uses investment assumptions that are not applicable to our portfolio or, we believe, the Board's decision.

Divestment also circumvents the significant political and environmental risks that these industries face in the upcoming years. Middlebury invests its endowment with an infinite horizon with respect to returns, and as a result

the question of when anti-carbon emission legislation will occur, either in one year or in 10, does not change the fact that there could be significant impact on intermediate- and long-term profitability not currently priced into the market. Restrictions on using this carbon are almost inevitable if the planet as we know it is to survive.

Nathan Arnosti: Divestment from South Africa provides a clear legal precedent. A legal comment at the time noted that "the courts give wide discretion to trustee investment decisions." ... The UNEP Finance Initiative reports in 2005 and 2009 confirms the legality of integrating non-financial considerations into investment decisions.

The College's investment objectives explains that the endowment's "earnings support the diverse programs and initiatives of the Middlebury College community in perpetuity." Isn't it fair to consider that our earnings from investments in fossil fuels and weapons do not support the college's initiatives?

Laura Berry: Middlebury has already placed social and environmental concerns at the forefront of its academics and campus operations. We ask that the Board vote to divest from fossil fuels and weapons manufacturers because the missions of these companies run directly counter to the Middlebury education.

Middlebury now has the opportunity to take its role as a social and environmental leader to the next level. Middlebury would be at the forefront of a national movement with over 256 active divestment campaigns on college campuses. We would be the first of our peer institutions to divest and would undoubtedly inspire other institutions in the United States to once again follow in our footsteps and consider divestment.

Kristina Johansson: Divestment from fossil fuels and weapons manufacturers will have a powerful impact, as it did in South Africa 25 years ago. Middlebury's divestment, in conjunction with divestment at other institutions, can spark a shift in the public discourse on climate change and gun violence. We mean to reduce the political power of these industries in Washington, which has prevented meaningful legislation on climate change and gun violence over the past few decades. Widespread divestment will also signal to the government that academic institutions desire an economic and political environment that no longer coddles fossil fuel producers, but rather nurtures the development of clean, renewable energy.

Fernando Sandoval Jimenez: We are not an iso-

lated community. We are not immune to the effects of climate change and weapons manufacturing. We are a global community, and we are proud of it. It only makes sense that we honor our responsibility to the members of this community.

We have shown that we care about the environment by putting our money forth to green this campus. It is now time to fully embrace our values, to put our ethics forth and to show that we care about ALL members of our global community. And we can do this by taking ownership over where our money goes, and what our money does in the world.

Jeannie Bartlett: The first step we propose is to choose a strategy. Middlebury is in a somewhat unique situation because our endowment is managed by Investure, together with the endowments of 12 other institutions. The first option, then, is for Investure to divest all the funds it manages ... A second option is for only certain Investure clients to divest ... A third option, of course, is for Middlebury to divest independently of Investure, and manage the endowment using an in-house manager or by forming a new consortium with like-minded institutions.

The second step is to make a public commitment to divestment. On March 4, students are "marching forth" to support divestment, and we hope that you can join us then with a positive announcement ... We ask for a commitment by March 15. We realize the logistics of any of the strategies we've outlined will probably take time to implement. The commitment should identify a strategy for divestment, set a timeline for implementation and dedicate paid time and energy into implementation.

By 2016, at the same time that we fulfill carbon neutrality, we hope Middlebury can announce that our portfolio is free of fossil fuel companies and arms manufacturers.

Finally, investing to advance Middlebury's mission is an ongoing process. We should continually reflect on and improve the alignment of our investments with our values.

Jeannie Bartlett '15 is from Leyden, Mass.

Laura Berry '16 is from Nashville, Tenn.

Teddy Smyth '15 is from Augusta, Ga.

Craig Thompson '13.5 is from New York, N.Y.

Nathan Arnosti '13 is from Saint Paul, Minn.

Kristina Johansson '14 is from Stockholm, Sweden

Fernando Sandoval Jimenez '15 is from Nochistlán de Mejía, Mexico.

READER OP-ED

Students who presented to the Board of Trustees

Mad libbed

Was my last article a little too *Eat Pray Love-y*? I feel like my last article was a little too *Eat Pray Love-y*. I hope you can bear with me if any more sentimental-study-abroad-blog, gag-if-I-see-one-more-Instagram-of-your-cultural-experience moments arise. This time I hope I can kick that association by taking spiritual guidance from a former porn star.

It's about 12:30 p.m. in Istanbul and the sound of *ezan* – the Islamic call to prayer – is rising from about 3,000 mosques across the city. The chant begins with "Allahu Akbar" or "God is greatest." In this Turkish metropolis, however, the words echoing beautifully across the hills are not sung in Turkish. They are Arabic. Under Atatürk, leader of the Turkish national movement, which involved sweeping reform and secularization of the country in the early 20s, the government mandated that all mosques call the *ezan* in Turkish. As both an anchor in the city's soundtrack and the predominant religious group's spiritual timetable, the tongue of one's country or the tongue of one's holy scriptures becomes embedded in daily life. The chosen language for the *ezan* has deep cultural implications. Arabic was reinstalled after a change of leadership in 1950.

I love hearing the *ezan*. I am thrilled if I can hear the full song when out on the balcony eating breakfast or walking through some alleyway at dusk. My Turkish flatmate, a Muslim and self-professed Kemalist, a strong supporter of the principles behind Atatürk's secular republic, doesn't like the sound of the *ezan*. He doesn't want to hear Arabic thickening the air five times a day – he wants to hear Turkish, the tongue of his country and his father. Islam is his religion but Arabic is not his language. For Turkish Muslims, the particular language of the magnified call has the power to alter-

nately effect a kind of linguistic imperialism, inspire proud nationalism or not even make it into the iPod-plugged ears of the new generation of "global citizens" and their growing indifference to their heritage.

Another Turkish friend told me about a time his Palestinian friends came to visit Istanbul. They attended a mosque for Friday worship. The Turkish people present began to cry upon listening to the imam's Arabic teachings, overcome by the holy moment. At the end of the worship, the visiting Palestinians, the only people present beside the imam who spoke Arabic, asked, "What did those people think he was saying?"

"I would be inclined to encourage belief in whatever magic storm has the power to move you. Even feelings brought on by imagined contexts are valid."

"Perhaps the sacred words of God," said my friend. The Palestinians looked bewildered and shook their heads. "The imam was discussing the part of the Qur'an that enumerates very boring property laws." The assembly was trying to participate in their worship that was not presented in their own language.

You guys remember Mad Libs, right? Those simple short stories with fill-in-the-blanks for nouns, adjectives, adverbs, etc. chosen at random? The words that the players write in sometimes eerily work in context, but more often render the story nonsensical and funny. Maybe it was really late at night and maybe I'd spent too much time reading the archived blog posts of a recovering addict and porn star, but I started to think of how human interpretation of religion is very often like a game of Mad Libs. If Arabic means as much as Gobbledygook to a devout Turkish-speaking Muslim, but he is still moved to tears in the moment, he is replacing those unintelligible words, those mystifying blanks, with what whatever words he needs to hear or whatever words he thinks might fit.

I would be inclined to encourage belief in whatever mag-

ic storm has the power to move you. Even feelings brought on by imagined contexts are valid. However, it brings me pause. If more than just one's internal spiritual life is built on such penciled-in foundations, I think that the misunderstandings, the garbled messages, the self-told truths are often reasons for irreparable schisms between people.

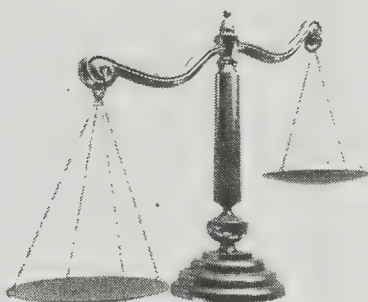
But the Mad Libs concept is not only a wrecker of havoc – it is also the multivariate way we can stay honest and defiant. God bless fill-in-the-blanks. Recovering porn star and addict of many substances Jennie Ketcham was all over reality TV shows and book deals and keeps a blog with a large following. In 2009, in her early AA days, she wrote in response to interrogation of her beliefs in light of another porn star's sudden religious extremism:

"What bothers me even more is the fact that I'm tripping off what other people think ... I can't even say God in the serenity prayer in AA. I replace it with the word gravity. Gravity is my higher power. It is stronger than me and certainly more consistent. Occasionally I mix it in with Buddha. Buddha, grant me the Serenity. Even Love. Love is my higher power. But the G word has always wiggled me out, especially the fundamentalist nonsense that Shelly spews. The revelations I am experiencing have nothing to do with God, or crazy Shelly, they have to do with ME. And only ME. And maybe gravity."

In AA they make you choose a higher power like a fill-in-the-blank question until you actually land on something you sincerely believe in. May we all be as self-possessed as Jennie Ketcham when faced with that blank space – open to the moments that move us, unafraid to expose our confusion and vulnerability, and accepting the absurdity and misinterpretation that is all part of the game.

THE CRACK SPIRIT GUIDE

Eliza Wallace '14 is from Shepherdstown, W. Va



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New Kids on the Block

By Lauren Davidson, Isabelle Stillman and Molly Talbot

Design by Olivia Allen



Matt Lennon '13

When: I transferred to Middlebury my freshman year in February of 2009.

Where: Carleton College

Why: I wanted to transfer because I wanted to be closer to home and my family. I'm from New Jersey and felt much more comfortable being a five-hour drive from home rather than a couple-hour flight. I also never really connected with anyone there immediately so it made my decision a lot easier. People from the midwest are really nice. I'm not used to that coming from Jersey.

I was only at Carleton for about two months, so I don't really know much about it to be honest. What I do remember best though is that they had a ton of school spirit and a lot of traditions that brought the entire student body closer together. I've never really seen that as much at Middlebury since I've been here. Middlebury is a little more divided throughout. Nothing wrong with that as long as you find the right group.



Stephanie Machado '13

When: I transferred to Middlebury my junior year in September of 2010.

Where: University of Vermont

Why: I went to UVM because I was told that the honors college was challenging and when I got to school I realized that, academically, my classes weren't as challenging as I would like them to be. The school was also too big to have relationships with professors and I wanted to go to school in a small community. When transferring, I was choosing between Middlebury and a UC school, but, I decided it would be better for me academically to go to Middlebury. I wanted to be challenged in a way that I hadn't been challenged before. I'm 100 percent happy with decision to transfer because, before I never felt like I could look back and say I'm actually improving and learning more. I'm able to think on a higher level. I've been trained to think in a way I wouldn't have had in an environment like UVM. I am happy here because it is a smaller community and I know more people here. I'm not just a face in the crowd.



Emily Roach '13

When: I transferred to Middlebury my sophomore year in February of 2011.

Where: Boston College

Why: I switched schools for both academic and social reasons. Academically, besides the draw of the small classes, close relationships with professors and the other typical liberal artsy appeals, the academic aspect that I love most about Middlebury is the geography department — a department that does not exist at Boston College. I actually came in declared as a geography major, which I would assume is quite rare, and have never once doubted my decision! Socially, honestly, the people here at Midd are awesome. It's great that you can find so many different types of people that are all so down-to-earth.

lock

by Olivia Allen and Maresa Hatheway

In the fall of 2012, 151 students applied to transfer to Middlebury; 25 of these were admitted (making a 16.5 percent acceptance rate), and 10 enrolled. In the spring, the College had 70 applicants, seven of whom were admitted (for a 10 percent acceptance rate) and five of whom enrolled. "It's really an enrollment and space issue," said Greg Buckles, director of admissions in an email. In general, the number of

transfer students each semester is between zero and 15.

The Admissions Office's selectivity is based on their desire to bring students who come from schools different than Middlebury with a "unique perspective based on having been in a very different environment," according to Buckles. "Ideally a transfer student brings a different experience and perspective than a high school senior."



Staci Hill '15

When: I transferred to Middlebury my sophomore year in September of 2012.

Where: University of Southern California

Why: [She] didn't feel like the big school atmosphere allowed her to have a personal connection with administrators and professors: "It was really big and I thought that's what I wanted. At the end of the day I was kind of going to class and I was not really involved. I'm glad I experienced it last year because if I came to a liberal arts college initially I would have always been wondering about another school." She helped in leading transfer orientation this year and hopes to change the orientation process: "I love being a transfer and I love Middlebury, but orientation did not foreshadow what I expected. I would make transfer orientation separate from freshman. I didn't even know a transfer when I got here I was just kind of thrown in."



Joe Damron '13

When: I transferred to Middlebury my sophomore year in September of 2010.

Where: Georgetown University

Why: It was a decision that I came to in November. I looked at Middlebury as a smaller school with great people, and in particular I noticed too, this is funny, but the food is great here. The vibe here is unlike anywhere else. It seems like they don't overload you with work. There's a good balance, and the 4-1-4 schedule in particular provides that. I remember driving to Wal-Mart to drive back to Georgetown for the spring semester and they called me on the phone to offer me a spot at Middlebury. It was so cool to be a part of that orientation. It was filled with events and it just felt like I was welcomed here.



Alex Macmillan '15

When: I transferred to Middlebury my sophomore year in the fall of 2012.

Where: Wesleyan University

Why: Middlebury's environmental studies department is way better. There are just more options, more faculty and more classes offered. There's more of an outdoor culture here, whereas Wesleyan has a more urban feel. I also just had a bad year at Wesleyan. I think it's a great place, and I like the school, but I wanted to get a fresh start. So much of the orientation was geared towards freshman. It sort of felt like it was unnecessary for us to be there for a whole week before classes even started. But it was nice to get to know the transfers a little bit. I was just really ready for the year to start. I think most transfers have a lot of reasons they transferred and they just want to start get the ball rolling.

BEDROOM BRIEFS

BY VIRGINIA JOHNSON

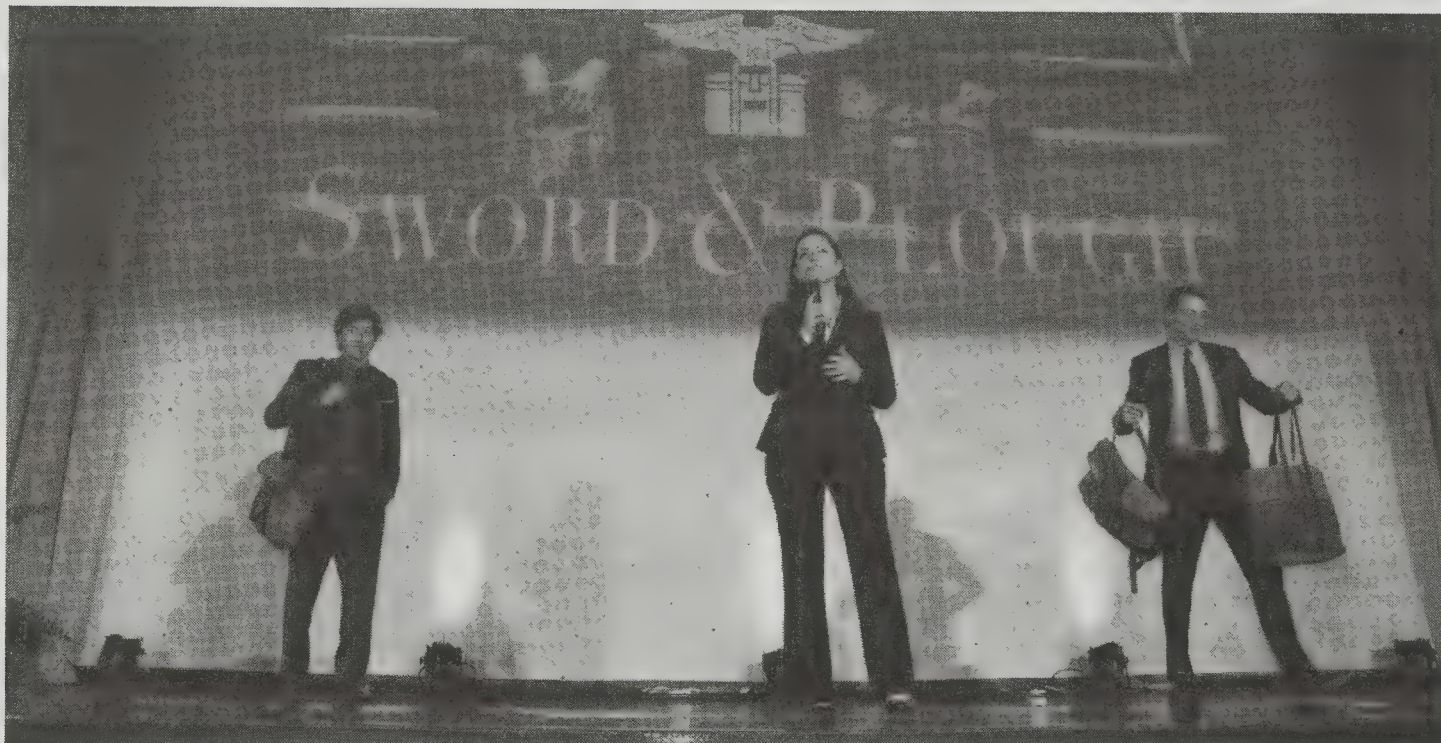
I do not enjoy giving head. I find the sensation of jamming a phallus against my gag reflex generally unpleasant, and, in my eyes, the activity fails to forge an emotional connection. I find fellatio physically intimate, I can smell the mustiness of his nether region, but I struggle to achieve emotional intimacy on my knees. Certainly, not everyone shares my opinion of blowjobs; roughly a third of women enjoy performing fellatio. Talking to my fellow blowjob administrators, I always discover controversy regarding technique and enjoyment. Varying opinions concerning the topic began long before the current era. The first record of oral sex dates back to Ancient Egypt. With the development of Christianity, oral sex acquired a sinful reputation. The modern age and pornography promoted fellatio as a kinky sexual option, and it eventually became a tool to spice up the conjugal bed. In the last few decades, however, attitudes towards oral sex have inverted. Oral sex has developed into a precursor for vaginal intercourse. Our generation administers blowjobs younger and more casually than any group of Americans before us, beginning as early as middle school. Many psychologists and psychiatrists fear that 11, 12, and 13 year-olds are not mentally developed enough for the activity. They predict that those who prematurely explore oral sex will fail to learn how to create emotional intimacy in conjunction with sexual intimacy.

Although I don't feel my capacity to love has been stunted, my sexual exploration runs congruent with this trend. I gave my first blowjob years before I lost my virginity. I feel more comfortable administering fellatio casually than having sex casually. However, I take issue with my own opinion. Why should oral sex be casual? It is not physically safer than vaginal intercourse; it can spread sexually transmitted diseases. A lack of eye contact during oral sex enables emotional distance, but hiding during a sexual encounter is defeatist. If you want privacy, just stay clothed and keep your tongue in your own mouth. Although vaginal sex offers intimacy through shared pleasure, 69-ing can provide the same effect. By demoting oral to the world of one-night-stands, we discredit its capacity for pleasure and intimacy.

Additionally, I believe that the growing acceptance of fellatio has left "cunnilingus" in the dust. While writing this column, I've discussed oral sex a great deal recently, and many people have never heard the word cunnilingus. Cunnilingus, for those of you in the dark, is the practice of using one's tongue and mouth to pleasure a vagina. This vocabulary failure is evidence of my opinion. While I feel expected to offer my mouth as a receptacle for penis during a casual hook up, guys seem to only consider eating out a serious girlfriend. I hear men express their reluctance to learn how to perform cunnilingus, whereas past partners assumed I would instantly understand how to expertly tongue their penis. Clearly, an imbalance exists: we label cunnilingus as disgusting and relegate it to the sphere of committed relationships, while fellatio has attained acceptance and ubiquity. In a world where only 40-percent of women have G-spot orgasms, we ladies should utilize all the extra appendages we can muster to achieve climax! Why limit our pleasurable options to fingers and grinding when the tongue works so well?

Meanwhile, although several orifices besides the mouth offer a snugger, more pleasurable fit for penises, blowjobs have attained widespread acceptance. I find this paradox frustrating, and I encourage you to rectify it! Do not be afraid to dislike or refuse oral sex, but do acknowledge its potential! Remember that oral sex spreads STD's, and act accordingly. Consider how you use oral sex, and question the legitimacy of your habits. Learn your way around your preferred genitalia, and don't be afraid to use a little tongue.

MIDD ALUMNA WINS HARVARD PITCH CONTEST



COURTESY OF EMILY NÚÑEZ

Sword & Plough presenters pitch their product before the audience at the Harvard Pitch for Change competition on Feb. 10.

By Joe Flaherty

On Feb. 10, Sword & Plough, a company founded by recent Middlebury graduate Emily Núñez '12, won first place and the audience choice award in the Harvard Pitch for Change competition. The competition welcomes contestants who present ideas promoting the creation of social value. Sword & Plough aims to increase veteran employment and civil-military understanding while reducing waste by offering bags crafted of surplus military materials.

An officer in the U.S. Army Military Intelligence Branch, Núñez is co-founder and chief executive officer of Sword & Plough. The company was named after the ancient saying "to turn swords into ploughshares," meaning to move from the battle field to the civilian realm. In the contest, hosted by the Harvard Social Enterprise Conference, Sword & Plough competed against other social entrepreneurs to give a winning elevator pitch for their idea or project.

"Just getting to spend the day with all these other social entrepreneurs with awesome ideas for social innovation and change was incredibly inspiring," said Núñez.

"There were over 100 submissions, including students and alums from MIT, Harvard Business School – it was very intense competition and they won both awards," said Director of Environmental Studies, Faculty Director of the Middlebury Center for Social Entrepreneurship and Professor of Economics Jonathan Isham. "Emily is just moving at this amazing pace and succeeding left, right and center."

Isham also sits on the board of advisors for Sword & Plough.

Núñez said the idea for Sword & Plough was born last January while listening to the keynote speech by Jacqueline Novogratz during the first Middlebury Center for Social Entrepreneurship Symposium, but was also influenced by her own experience growing up in a military family.

"A lot of the time military surplus material is burned or buried if no one does anything with it," said Núñez. "So it

was that night that I thought, 'What if we were to take this material and turn it into something beautiful that someone would want to buy?'"

A central goal of Sword & Plough is to improve awareness of veterans' issues.

"While I was at Middlebury, my friends were always so supportive of my efforts with Army ROTC and my future service in the military but sometimes it was really hard to relate [to] what I was doing or certain concepts just because they hadn't met many people who were in the military before," said Núñez. "So I thought, well, everyone uses a bag of some sort throughout their day; what if we could take this surplus material and turn it into something beautiful and desirable with a story behind it that could reach people like students at Middlebury or young urban professionals?"

Sword & Plough has since partnered with Green Vets LA, a nonprofit started by U.S. Army Reserve Major Jim Cragg where veterans, injured and non-injured, are employed to sew reusable bags.

"[Green Vets LA] started as a form of therapy for these wounded veterans to have conversations together but also make something," said Núñez. "They started out by making first-aid bags for Special Forces units so it felt like they were still part of the fight and still part of the service in a way – I started talking to [Cragg] and he thought this could be a great partnership."

Sword & Plough has designed and produced five prototype products, including a messenger bag and tote bag and is planning a fundraising campaign through the crowdfunding website Kickstarter, starting around March 15.

Núñez cited the support of the Middlebury community as essential to the company's launch.

"Sword & Plough would be nowhere close to where it is today without the Center for Social Entrepreneurship, MidChallenge, [Project on Innovation in the Liberal Arts Director] Liz Robinson and [Isham] and everyone who supports those opportunities at Middlebury," said Núñez. "Two weeks after I thought of the idea after listening to [Novogratz] at the

symposium last January, I competed in the MiddChallenge competition and we won first place there, and that was another huge opportunity through Middlebury that gave us additional confidence and funding to help us move forward."

Núñez met Dr. Charles MacCormack, former president and CEO of Save the Children, and Susan Ross, former president and CEO of the Fairfield County Community Foundation, through the Center for Social Entrepreneurship – both now sit on the Sword & Plough Board of Advisors.

Isham emphasized that one of the most important roles faculty can play is encouraging students like Núñez to pursue innovative projects.

"You need to provide space for the students to pursue creative ideas and this is a great example of what happens when you do that," said Isham.

When asked if she had any advice for current Middlebury students hoping to start social enterprise projects of their own, Núñez said having a strong team that works together is important.

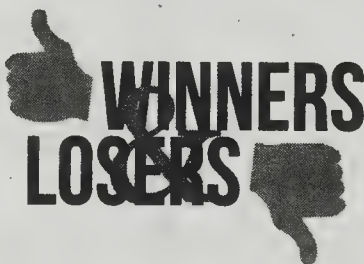
"Having friends who are supportive of you is so important, especially in the beginning," said Núñez. "You can't do it alone, and I couldn't do it alone."

"The Sword & Plough team has grown quite a bit from last January and finding team members who are really skilled in areas where you're not has made Sword & Plough progress so quickly," said Núñez.

She also said that time management is key.

"I know Middlebury students are already incredibly busy...but being as organized as you can with your time is very helpful," said Núñez. "But with that, also be sure to set time aside and dedicate it purely for friendship and the people that are close to you because Sword & Plough wouldn't exist if I didn't have the friends and family that I do."

Despite being an active-duty military officer, Núñez said, "There's never really a day where I feel like I'm too tired to work on Sword & Plough and I think that's because I believe in its mission so much and I'm inspired by the progress we've already made."



BEER GARDEN

If only the snacks were on the inside.

HARLEM SHAKE

This viral video is spreading faster than gastro!

RED VELVET CAKE

If you found yourself alone in Proctor on Valentine's, at least there were cupcakes!

FREEZING SUNDAY

How can we be expected to go to the library in this weather?

THE GYM

The rising temperature of the gym doesn't do anything for the smell.

CROWDED DINING HALLS

If your day wasn't stressful, try eating dinner at 6:30.

MIDDLEBURY ALUMNA WRITES BOOK ON LOVE

By Molly Talbert

Last Wednesday night, Meghan Laslocky '89 presented her first book, *The Little Book of Heartbreak: Love Gone Wrong Through the Ages* at 51 Main. At the event, which The Vermont Bookshop touted as "Anti-Valentine," Laslocky discussed her new book and read from her recent *Middlebury Magazine* article, "Whither Courtly Love," in which she explores courtly love and her experience with love (or lack of love) at the College.

"I was really fascinated by why we suffer so when our hearts get broken, from a physiological and bio-evolutionary perspective," said Laslocky in a phone interview after the event.

The Little Book of Heartbreak is a history of heartbreak in which she explores the phenomenon from 12th Century Paris, Ernest Hemingway, to modern day romances.

"I'm fascinated by breakups," said Laslocky during her talk. "The texture and complexity of them [is interesting]."

One aspect of her book which she needed to address but which she is skeptical of is courtly love, a subject that comes up frequently in literature and has played a role in shaping peoples' ideas of romance. Courtly love is the idea of love based of chivalry and nobility. It is a skepticism that she has harbored ever since her days as an English major at the College.

"I loved being an English major but every time courtly love came up I was

like, 'not again,'" she said. "But, in order to be responsible and talk about heartbreak I had to look back on courtly love."

One of the reasons for her dislike of courtly love is because she believes it is so far from the reality of life at college as she experienced it.

"No doubt part of the reason why I found courtly love so irksome lay in the fact that it was so at odds with what I was experiencing as a young woman at Middlebury in the 80s — or thought I was experiencing," Laslocky quoted from her essay in *Middlebury Magazine*.

As she continued her study of courtly love after college, she discovered that she isn't the only skeptic of courtly love and that, even though images of Mr. Darcy wooing Elizabeth Bennett are evocative, courtly love may never have been a reality outside of the pages of books like *Pride and Prejudice*. After this discovery, Laslocky felt vindicated that she seemed to have inherently known that courtly love was "bogus."

But, the question of why finding love at college is so difficult for so many people — including her — kept nagging her. At the event at 51 Main, she suggested that "tribalism" and "fear of crossing social boundaries" could be one rea-

son. Also, she put forward the idea that "hooking up was cool, walks of shame were cool, but unabashed love [was not cool]."

At the event, one audience member — a student at the College — commented on how, even though Laslocky's experience at Middlebury was in the 80s, in many ways it looks very similar to the dating and "hookup" scene at the College today. The main difference, though, now is the overbearing presence of technology.

"I think that that [technology] is obviously very seductive but very tricky," said Laslocky. "A real concern [is] communicating face-to-face, that that skill is going to be lost."

Being able to text and be in constant communication with people as well as smart phone apps like Tinder make options for romance seem endless and can get in the way of more meaningful connections, Laslocky suggested.

But, really, it could come down to one thing, whether in 12th century Paris or the hyper-connected world of today. When an audience member asked Laslocky if she had any regrets regarding her college experience and love, Laslocky said, "I regret not expressing myself."

"I was really facinated by why we suffer so when our hearts get broken from a physiological and bio-evolutionary perspective."

MEGHAN LASLOCKY
AUTHOR AND MIDD ALUM

Middlebury celebrates One Billion Rising

By Claire Abbadi

On Wednesday, Feb. 13 from 10 p.m. to midnight, the College celebrated Middlebury Rises, one of many events worldwide dedicated to ending violence against women through the One Billion Rising movement.

The vision of the Feb. 13 dance parties, which took place in over 197 countries, was created by Eve Ensler, a 1975 Middlebury graduate and writer of "The Vagina Monologues," a 1966 play that deals with issues such as sex, love, rape and other aspects of the female experience.

The College has been putting on "The Vagina Monologues" for several years to raise money for WomenSafe, an organization founded to help stop domestic and sexual violence in Addison County.

Karin Hanta, director of Chellis House has been at the forefront of organizing Middlebury Rises, and described "The Vagina Monologues" as "a play that has spawned global movement."

This became especially apparent in 1998 when out of the momentum created by "The Vagina Monologues," Ensler and others created V-Day, a non-profit organization that has raised over \$75 million to end violence against women worldwide.

"This year, [Ensler] is asking one billion people around the globe to stomp out violence against women by getting together in giant dance parties on Feb. 13," explained Hanta. Middlebury joined in that one billion.

The event featured DJ Mariam; Poor Form poets Cheswayo Mphanza '16, Debanjan Roychoudury '16, Anna Stevens '13.5; and the a capella group the Bobolinks. "The Vagina Monologues" were read, rap-sung and poetry-recited.

Light refreshments of red velvet cupcakes and sweet potato fries were served.

To prepare for the event, groups that are close to this issue on campus such as the Sexual Assault Oversight Committee, It Happens Here, Feminist Action at Middlebury, Women of Color, Sister-to-

Sister, VOX and Amnesty International lent helping hands.

Rabeya Jawaid's '16 role in the process involved making a video about the event, depicted different people holding signs that read, "I RISE BECAUSE..." Some of the reasons given in the movie are "because my body is mine, and mine only" or "because one billion dancing is a revolution."

"It brought me up close to the reality of this matter: that a lot of people were in fact afraid to take any action and speak against violence inflicted on women," said Jawaid.

Because of their passion for the cause, many people were willing and enthusiastic about participating in the video, but others, Jawaid noticed, remained shy and in denial.

"Some of the comments I got to hear were 'Are we supposed to be doing this? Is this allowed?' but other brave ones replied, 'We live in the USA, we have freedom of speech right?'" Jawaid said.

What especially struck Jawaid was the reaction to the signs by Middlebury students. "The reality may be quite re-

moved from them, and violence may be going on in countries other than theirs," said Jawaid. "But I think everyone should realize that this is a global concern, and inevitably does affect each and every one of us."

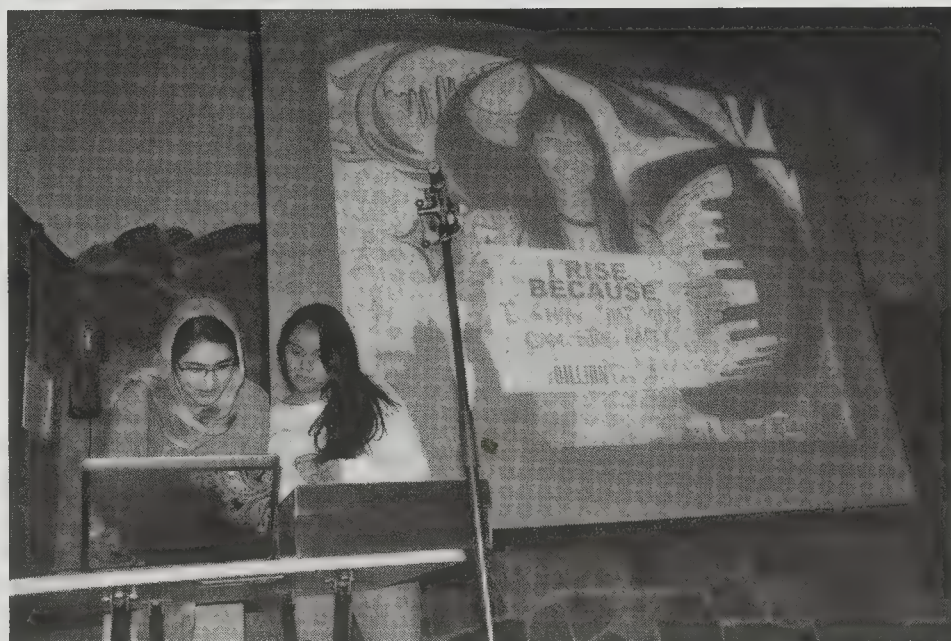
Alexandra Strott '15, a monitor at the Chellis House, also helped to organize the event.

"One Billion Rising is so crucial because so often we dance around the issues of rape, assault and other forms of sexual violence," she said. "We need more events like this that expose these problems, put them out in the open and invite everyone of every gender and sex to face the facts and learn how to deal with them."

The event took place at Crossroads Café, and an enthusiastic audience gathered to watch the many student groups perform to support this movement.

Attendees enjoyed hearing about this important message.

"They were effective in communicating and supporting their cause, an important cause, through poignant performances," said Carly Andersen '16.



MAHNAZ REZAIK

Two students work on the visual presentation for the Feb. 13 One Billion Rising event.

TASTE CHEESE CHOPSTICKS



BY JIAYI ZHU

I interned at a Hong Kong-based weekly news magazine in winter term, and I made some observations on fragmentation of information by reading news everyday from news outlets in China and in the U.S.

If I only have 10 minutes before I go to work and need to skim some news, I'll choose the *New York Times* over the *People's Daily*, *Nanfang Daily* or any other Chinese media website.

The homepage of Chinese media tends to be the front-page layout of their paper. There is no selected news under different sections, and no active links that directs readers to the text of any article; only the PDF version of the paper is available.

I always find interesting reports on China, the Middle East and all parts of the world on the *New York Times* homepage, but world news rarely becomes the headline of any Chinese newspaper.

The narrow view is not the most unbearable part — the fragmented information is. Chinese news media only provide the least information you need to know about any pieces — most of the articles online are under 400 words, while western media offers in-depth stories. Most of the news on the *New York Times* is over two pages, and some fascinating feature reports can be over seven pages.

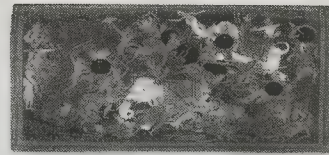
It is not hard to see how different styles of reporting in the West and in China affects the ways of speaking out in public.

I read comments before purchasing an item on Amazon, both in the U.S. and in China. The average quantity and quality of comments on amazon.cn are lower than those on amazon.com. Take *One Hundred Years of Solitude* as an example: most of the comments on amazon.cn focus on the quality of packing and mention nothing about the book itself. On amazon.com, however, all the comments sound like book critiques, and a lot of them are over 800 words. For a kettle, the comments on amazon.cn tend to be under two sentences; even when people are complaining about a kettle, they give no detail. But on amazon.com, users tend to be more responsible and will come back and edit their comments after using the kettle for several months, and the information can be very useful for potential buyers.

Similar things also happen on social media. In college, most of my friends don't have Twitter accounts, and they barely post anything on Facebook. They value face-to-face communication. But in China, when I meet with my high school friends, the scene is totally different: everyone is on Weibo (Chinese version of Twitter) or Renren (Chinese version of Facebook) at the get together. My college friends share links of news reports and long critiques of events on Facebook, while my high school friends in China spend tons of time lingering on Weibo but only repost other's short comments without creating any original post. One hundred and forty characters can be an efficient way to communicate, but it should not be the only way.

Fragmentation also limits our judgments. A 400-word news report can only include the basic who, where, when, what and how, and leaves no room for analysis. Even when analysis is present in those short reports, it will not be comprehensive and becomes biased.

I guess it is hard to avoid being fragmented in this era. News reporting is competing with short judgment, persuasive photos and self-explaining graphics. We, however, need to consciously avoid becoming impatient and shallow.



Comedian Adam Ferrara performs Winter Carnival

By Santiago Azpurua-Borras

On Friday Feb. 19, the McCullough Social Space was once again the platform used for the annual Winter Carnival stage show. This year the College welcomed comedian and actor Adam Ferrara.

Before Ferrara hit the stage, the crowd was treated to the comedic stylings of Greg Dorris '13. Dorris discussed a time when he found himself in charge of mascots for a local baseball team. The audience received Dorris very well as he delivered his bits with confidence. Notable in his performance was that his stand-up was very clean and appropriate for all ages. This is a quality not commonly seen in many stand-up comedians and offered a refreshing change of pace.

Following Dorris came Adam Benay '13, which discussed various things that he had observed,

contrasting with Dorris's story-telling style of humor. When Benay began talking about Spiderman, specifically Peter Parker's relationship to the spider that would eventually give him his signature super powers, I could not help but be brought back to Wyatt Cenac's show that occurred in the fall of 2012, who also briefly discussed Spiderman.

It made sense that these two students were the opening act: both are members of Otter Nonsense, one of Middlebury's improv groups.

Eventually, Ferrara took the stage. Almost immediately, Ferrara exploded with a comic energy that foretold that this was going to be a good show. Ferrara explored many different topics, beginning almost immediately with the fact that Middlebury is in the middle of nowhere. As the evening progressed,

Ferrara picked a couple of targets from the crowd and he often play-mocked them to add to the hilarity. Despite being on campus for less than a day or so, Ferrara was able to find some nuggets of truth about the College. After asking multiple students what they wanted to do with their degrees post-graduation, almost all of the students answered with the familiar phrases, "I'm not too sure" or "I don't know." This is where Ferrara's frustration with our lack of participation began to show.

"I go to Middlebury College, I majored in indecisiveness!" said Ferrara.

Ferrara had great energy, was willing to poke fun at the College and really engaged with the student body.

After the show, Ferrara, Dorris and Benay met with the *Middlebury Campus* for a brief interview.

Middlebury Campus: Tell us a little bit about your work with "Top Gear."

Adam Ferrara: It's funny ... the stuff we actually think up on the show gets done. I mean you're sitting in a creative meeting and they say "What do you want to do?" [and you say,] I want to put guns on cars! 'Brilliant!' And that's when I realized: there's no f***ing adult in the room. So we put paintball guns on an El Camino and Rut, the other guy on the show, put them on a Honda and we shot at each other because it was amazing. I went to Iceland, I drove on a volcano, I drove on a glacier ... There's my episode that comes out this year and I got to drive a GT 40 ... it's an \$11 million car and they let me drive it six feet. I got to roll it, start it up, put in gear — and that was about it. But, I got to drive it — not far — but I got to drive it.

MC: In terms of your stand-up, who or what inspires your material? What is your source?

AF: I'm a confessional comic so I pretty much just talk about my life. I didn't do a lot of that tonight because a lot of it was improv. A lot of it is about that I'm married now, [and that] my father passed away, so there are just certain things in my life that I want to examine and make funny and when I can make those funny, even though they might be serious things [and] it connects with somebody it's that much more of an experiential laugh. Well my dad was going through cancer on my last special, and I actually talked about his chemotherapy and it was nice to connect with someone else. I got a lot of nice letters about their families going through it. Bottom line: it's got to be f***ing funny. No one wants to hear your troubles — everyone's got their f***ing troubles — make it funny! So if I can draw from that, put that through the filter, and make it funny, that's the most rewarding stuff for me. I didn't do a lot of it tonight because I'm at a different point in my life, so I just like to talk to the students and see where they're at, and to see what's important to them. You can just tell that by talking or taking the temperature [of] what they're laughing at, what they're not laughing at, and to improv with them. We will do a lot of improv at college shows because we're all in a space together. It's still a performance but it's like we are creating this together and using the audience as the chisel.

MC: What comedians do you per-

sonally like?

AF: Greg and Adam, they were the best two tonight.

MC: to Benay and Dorris: What is the process when someone like [Ferrara] comes to Middlebury to open for them?

Greg Dorris: They asked the Otters if we wanted to open because [Ferrara] was coming up here without his own opener and we said, "That's a terrible idea; we don't want to do a 20-minute improv set before stand-up." Adam and myself have been doing lots of stand-up this year and we were scratching for a chance to perform, [so when] we asked about doing some time, they were like, "Yes please!"

MC to AF: Where's your next show?

AF: I'll be at the Improv in Chicago ... the weekend of the 21st.

MC: Did you start in stand-up?

AF: I started as a stand-up comic first and foremost. That's kind of how I define myself. I've been fortunate — I used to do a lot of different things — but I got to do my stand up. [This] is the purest expression of yourself because you're the writer, you're the producer, you're the performer and it's immediate feedback. You know if it sucks, the audience will let you know.

And then I got to be an actor and I really studied the craft of it because it's just something I wanted to do. It was an adjustment coming from stand-up because there's no guidelines ... You can use the audience as a wave you're surfing on, and there's rhythm between the two energies. When you're an actor that rhythm can happen in two different people; it's much more of an intimate thing. So it's a little more difficult for me as a stand-up [comic] because it's easier to tell your truth to 400 people than it is to one person. You know, I can look at 400 faces [and] be totally comfortable, but when you're looking into someone else's eyes and say whatever that truth is, then that is a little more daunting. So I started as a stand-up, got to be an actor [and] now in "Top Gear" I get to drive all these cool

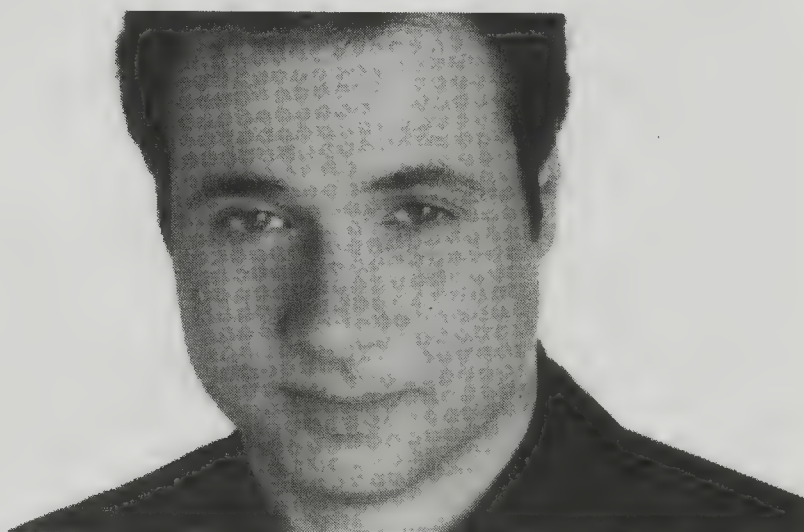
"Bottom line: it's gotta be ... funny. No one wants to hear your troubles, everyone's got their [own] troubles, make it funny! So if I can draw from that, put it through the filter, and make it funny, that's the most rewarding stuff for me."

ADAM FERRARA
COMEDIAN

AF: She's great. To work with someone of that level is truly great. I've been really fortunate. I got to work with Dennis Leary for two, three different shows? And now I get to work with Edie. I'm a very fortunate man.

MC: What got you into stand-up originally?

AF: I saw Richard Pryor when I was 12 years-old. I went to one of his family parties ... All the adults ... left to have coffee in the other room and I snuck in ... pushed play, and it just blew my head. I didn't understand a lot of it because I was a kid, but it just seemed important to me. It made an impression. I just remember



COURTESY

Adam Ferrara performed in the Social Space as the comedian for the Winter Carnival.

cars. But I also get to be back and acting, as I'll be on "Nurse Jackie" this season. I did seven out of 10 episodes in that show.

MC: Have those episodes premiered?

AF: No, April 14 is the premiere of the show, but the episodes have already been shot.

MC: Is there anything you can tell us about your role on the show?

AF: I play Sergeant Frank Bareli; I am a police sergeant who is Jackie Paton's love interest.

MC: What is it like working with Edie Falco?

thinking, "Wow, look at what this man can do." And I remember the bit [when] he was just walking through the forest ... about why white people get bit by s*** all the time. [In the bit he says] black people don't get bit because they walk all cool through the forest, and he's just walking across the stage. He's taking forever, and he gets to the end and he just goes "snake." And he gives that one f***ing glance and boom! The audience blows up and it was just like it seemed very important what he was doing. I just remember that memory, "That's what I want to do!" I didn't have that; I had "Look at what this guy can do."

MC: What is your favorite joke?

GD: I listen to John Moloney talk about "Law and Order" over and over again. I'd have to say his joke about that show and people stacking boxes or looking at pictures. He's got a way of talking about things that I've seen a million times ... Every time I hear him it makes me angry and sort of want to quit but also makes me want to write a lot.

Benay: I saw Mike Birbiglia's show outside of Burlington, and he has this one line [about] when he was in middle school, he was talking to a girl on the phone about homework. And she said, "Mike stop it, you're gonna make me laugh so hard I'm gonna pee." And then he said, "And that's what I've been trying to do my entire life because it was the closest thing I had ever come to a vagina." ... I really liked it.

AF: My favorite bits ... Pryors heart attack bit — that was brutally funny. Louis Black's weather bit ... I saw that one live ... Greg Proops has nine f***ing bits I want to steal ... There's just too many.

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Buddy Meets The Strivers

The coming together of some of the best poetic minds in the Millennial generation. The Striver's Row is a collective of five internationally-known youth poets based out of the northeast

2/22, 8 P.M., DANA AUDITORIUM

Off The Wall: Informal Discussions About Art

Middlebury recently acquired a late-18th-century Indian painting depicting a dramatic event from the Hindu epic the Ramayana. Cynthia Packert, Christian A. Johnson Professor of History of Art, leads a lively discussion about this piece before a light lunch in the lobby.

2/22, 12:15 P.M., CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The Flying Words Project

The Flying Words Project is an American Sign Language (ASL) poetry troupe comprised of Deaf Poet Peter Cook and hearing coauthor Kenny Lerner. By combining both modern and ancient aspect of poetry into their work they produce an unforgettable visceral and visual experience for multicultural audiences.

2/23, 7:30 P.M., MCCULLOUGH SOCIAL SPACE

SCIENCE SPOTLIGHT: SCIENCE OUTSIDE THE BUBBLE

By Will Henriques

It's a big week for science. The top *New York Times* headline Monday morning read: "Obama Seeking to Boost the Study of the Human Brain." Normally, such headlines are relegated to the *Science Times*, where only people like me will read them. But this story was deemed front page-worthy. It will change our lives in ways we can't imagine, just as the Human Genome Project did.

The author of the article, John Markoff, reported: "The project, which the administration has been looking to unveil as early as March, will include federal agencies, private foundations and teams of neuroscientists and nanoscientists in a concerted effort to advance the knowledge of the brain's billions of neurons and gain greater insights into perception, actions and, ultimately, consciousness." The money — potentially as much as three billion dollars — and government support will be a "game changer." It could bring together disparate research teams under one banner. It could foster the innovation of new research technologies and strategies. The possibilities are exciting. "One," Markoff wrote, "is to build a complete model map of brain activity by creating fleets of molecule-size machines to noninvasively act as sensors to measure and store brain activity at the cellular level. The proposal envisions using synthetic DNA as a storage mechanism for brain activity."

While synthetic DNA as a storage mechanism for information may

sound far-fetched and science-fiction, it's already being done. The European Bioinformatics Institute had managed to store digital information in DNA molecules and more research is being done to perfect the practice and make large scale data storage more practical.

On Jan. 28, the *New York Times* reported on the Institute's work: "The amount of data, 739 kilobytes all told, is hardly prodigious by today's micro-electronic storage standards: all 154 of Shakespeare's sonnets, a scientific paper, a color digital photo of the researchers' laboratory, a 26-second excerpt from the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech and a software algorithm. Nor is this the first time digital information has been stored in DNA. But the researchers said their new technique, which includes error-correction software, was a step toward a digital archival storage medium of immense scale. Their goal is a system that will safely store the equivalent of one million CDs in a gram of DNA for 10,000 years."

It's been more than a big week. It's been a big couple of months for science generally, but DNA in particular. A recent study highlighted in the *Times* on Jan. 16 and 28, "Mouse Study Discovers DNA That Controls Behavior" and "Tracing the Roots of Behavior in DNA" argues that "the architectural feats of animals ... offer an opportunity for scientists to tackle the profoundly difficult question of how genes control complicated behavior in animals and humans." The study, which examined burrow architecture in two

types of mice, "[identified] four regions of DNA that play a major role in telling a mouse how long a burrow to dig and whether to add an escape tunnel."

The fact that specific behaviors can be targeted to a small handful of regions in the genetic code is a significant development because it's one step away from being able to identify the exact genes that influence behavior. And though understanding the link between behavior and genetics in mice is a far cry from that same understanding in humans, it's a step towards a very profound understanding of the human experience.

A deeper understanding of genetics, and the human genome in particular, has led to leaps in medical treatments. On Dec. 9, the *New York Times* published an article about a novel treatment for leukemia that uses a disabled form of HIV to infect T-cells — a type of white blood cell — with a gene that causes the T-cells to attack and kill cancerous cells. The *Times* wrote: "Researchers say the same approach, reprogramming the patient's immune system, may also eventually be used against tumors like breast and prostate cancer. To perform the treatment, doctors remove millions of the patient's T-cells ... and insert new genes that enable the T-cells to kill cancer cells. The technique employs a disabled form of H.I.V. because it is very good at carrying genetic material into T-cells. The new genes program the T-cells to attack B-cells, a normal part of the immune system that turns malignant in leukemia. The altered T-cells — called chimeric

antigen receptor cells — are then dripped back into the patient's veins, and if all goes well they multiply and start destroying the cancer."

But what's the moral of this story?

We live in an age that is dominated by science, whether we care to acknowledge its presence or not. The work that's being done in the fields of genetics, bioinformatics, neuroscience and medicine will, I believe, revolutionize our world in the next two decades. Discoveries in these fields give us as a species, the ability to understand ourselves in a profound way. And, those discoveries are providing us with the tools to drastically change the way we live, oftentimes for the better. But as Einstein noted: "It has become appallingly obvious that our technology has exceeded our humanity." We often fall short on the ethical considerations when it comes to any new technology.

The College emblem is engraved with two words: Scientia et Virtus. Knowledge and virtue. And what is science, if not the pursuit of knowledge powered by a driving curiosity about the world? But knowledge without virtue is a dangerous thing. I think it is our duty, as students at Middlebury College, to pursue a deeper understanding of science alongside the Socratic quest to know the nature of virtue, so that we can make the right decision, the logical and ethical decision, around the powerful technologies emerging from modern science. Who knows? Maybe the College's own hydrogen-powered tractor will be the *New York Times*'s next front-page science headline.

Center for the Arts explores traditional Indian painting

By Deirdre Sackett

This Friday, Feb. 22, Christian A. Johnson Professor of History of Art Cynthia Packert will lead a discussion about a new painting that will soon be hanging in the College's Museum of Art. The College recently obtained the painting, "Illustration from the *Ramayana*," which depicts an epic event in Hindu lore. It was purchased with funds provided by the Robert P. and Barbara P. Youngman Acquisition Fund for Asian Art. The discussion is part of the "Off the Wall: Informal Discussions About Art" series.

The *Ramayana*, or "Story of Rama," is one of India's most ancient and revered epics. It is an adventure story centered on Rama, an incarnation of the Hindu god Vishnu, and was written in Sanskrit around 500 BCE by the poet Valmiki. Rama was the rightful heir to the throne of the kingdom Ayodhya, and was forced into exile by his evil step-mother. Yet he remained obedient to her, and set off into the wilderness with his wife Sita and brother Lakshmana. Sita is captured by a demon named Ravana, and a monkey named Hanuman teams up with Rama to rescue her. Rama returns to Ayodhya and is crowned king.

The painting illustrates the moment where Rama and Lakshmana, accompanied by an army of Hanuman's monkeys, begin their journey to rescue Sita. It is a climactic image, with various animals preparing for battle as Rama rides on Hanuman's back. Gold accents high-

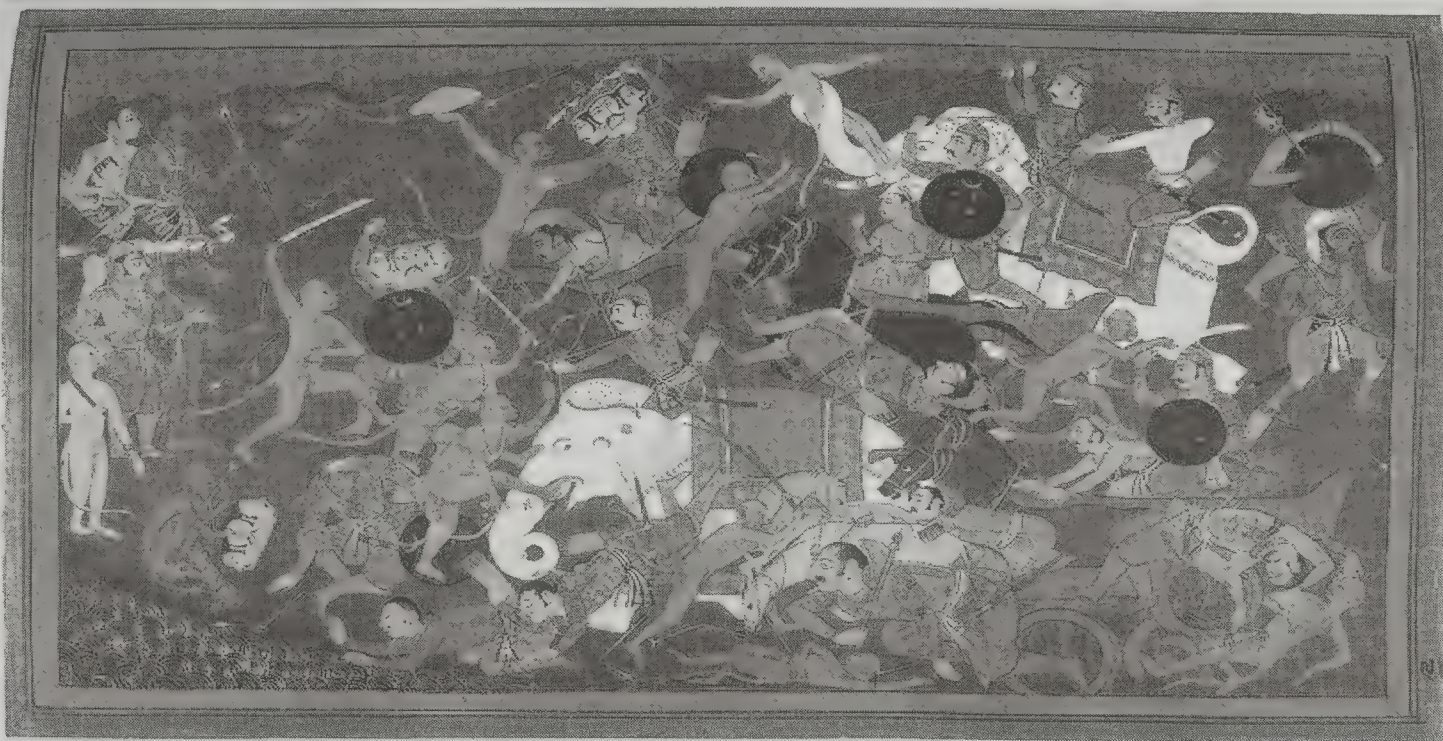
light royal animals and the halos behind Rama and Lakshmana.

"Illustration from the *Ramayana*" is a detached image from an 18th century manuscript. Such a manuscript would probably have been commissioned by one of the aristocratic families of the Rajput ruling class, who ruled over much of northwestern India.

The piece is an anticipated addition to the art Museum's collection, as it complements another *Ramayana* painting in its collection. In the painting already owned by the College, Rama, Lakshmana and Sita are just beginning their exile into the forest. The new addition will add another chapter to the story by showing the preparation for the

battle for Sita's freedom.

The "Off the Wall" discussion will start in the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts, Room 125 on Feb. 22 at 12:15 p.m., and then will proceed to the Museum of Art. Lunch will be provided. The event is free to College ID card-holders, and community donations are welcomed.



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"Illustration from the *Ramayana*" depicts a scene from the Indian epic *Ramayana* where a battle of two separate forces duke it out

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THE REEL CRITIC

BY BEN ANDERSON

Horror tends to be a divisive genre of film; either you're an adrenaline junky looking for the next great movie scare, or you can't stand the thought of being subjected to an hour and a half of blood, gore and cheap screams. I fall in the former group. Whether a beautifully crafted psychological scare like John Carpenter's *The Thing* or a campy, black-and-white monster suit classic like *Creature from the Black Lagoon*, there's nothing better than a movie that really chills you to your core. While Andres Muschietti's *Mama* is not the scariest film I've ever seen, it definitely got me to jump and is a well-designed take on a fairly straight forward ghost story.

The film follows two girls, Victoria and Lilly, who were abandoned in a cabin in the woods by their father after he committed suicide, only to be found five years later. The girls are adopted by their uncle, Lucas (Nikolaj Coster-Waldau) and his punk-band girlfriend, Annabel (Jessica Chastain). The couple, recently moved into a new house, is then tormented by a ghost that cared for the girls during their five years of solitude.

Too often, horror films — especially newer films — blur the line between "scared" and "startled," opting to have something jump out and startle the audience every few minutes rather than building any real psychologically thrilling horror scene. Any movie can make you jump; a truly great horror film will have you on the edge of your seat,

tormented by every dark room and trick of light on the screen. *Mama* definitely goes for the jump-out scares quite a bit, but I appreciated the ambiance built throughout the film and the story really pulled me into the couple's struggles with the ghost making the horror deeply-rooted and psychological as well as just startling.

The two highlights of the film were the design on the ghost, Mama, and Chastain's performance. Annabel's character is reluctantly pulled into the position of guardian for these two girls, choosing only to stay out of her feelings towards Lucas and Chastain hits the nail on the head with her portrayal of the

MAMA

character. I found myself at first disliking Annabel and her frustrations over the presence of the two girls in her life, only to begin to sympathize with her as she becomes more comfortable with the role of step-mother. Juxtaposed with a cast of otherwise unknown actors, Chastain definitely stood out in the film and her character added an extra edge to the story.

I will be the first to admit that I am a sucker for monster and villain design. While a well-designed hero is important to every story, it is the antagonists and anti-heroes that I believe make or break a piece and Mama's monster delivered in every way. For the start of the film, we saw very little of the ghost, mostly quick glimpses in the corner of the screen or —quite cleverly on the part of

the filmmaker — through the weak eyes of Victoria after dropping her glasses. These attempts to hide the ghost from the audience only made the beast scarier, and added to the subplot questioning the validity of the ghost or if it was all just fabricated by the young girls.

Near the end of the film, we saw a lot more of the ghost and, unfortunately, this took away from the film for me. It was not that seeing more of the ghost highlighted flaws in the design, I just felt that the story was enhanced by a spectral monster, hidden from the audience except for the bloody aftermath of her attacks.

The design on the monster was just one part in an all-around fantastically crafted art design for the film. Each scene incorporated an immerse color scheme that held a thematic tone throughout the film and from the childish drawings scrawled on the walls of the cabin that held the young girls prisoners for five years to the otherworldly portals that oozed from the walls, signs that Mama had found her way into the house, the artistic design of the film from start to finish proved to be an extra bonus to the film as a whole.

If you're a fan of horror films, I'd definitely recommend *Mama*. I'm not expecting it to find a place on the shelves next to classics like the original *Texas Chainsaw Massacre* or George Romero's *Dawn of the Dead*, but it is a fun ghost story that is beautifully shot and certain to creep you out.

FOR THE RECORD

BY LEAH LAVIGNE

We probably all know Gotye as the guy who sings "Somebody That I Used to Know"—the song that permeated radio, commercials and karaoke nights in 2012. The Belgian-Australian independent artist couldn't have expected the massive international success of the single, which topped the charts in 26 countries and has sold 13 million digital copies to date. My guess is that many of those 13 million Gotye listeners have not heard any of the other tracks from the artist's 2011 release "Making Mirrors," but after picking up Best Alternative Music Album

GOTYE

Making Mirrors

at the recent 2013 Grammy Awards, I have a feeling that many people will be taking a closer look.

What is remarkable about "Making Mirrors" is that it was recorded on a MacBook Pro from Gotye's parents' farm in Australia, far removed from the enormous production costs typical of stars as big as Gotye. Born Wouter De Backer in Belgium, Gotye had previously recorded two albums in this manner, garnering mild success and critical recognition in Australia.

Filled with ambition, "Making Mirrors," was not made to impress anyone. The album alternates between songs that experiment with whisper singing and heavy synthesizers to pop-fueled cuts with catchy melodies and more traditional musical structures. Gotye brings in aspects of soul, rock, electronica and 80's pop to the record with his Peter Gabriel and Sting inspired sound, while still providing enough material that appeals to radio and the masses. Audiences were captured by the contrast in "Somebody That I Used to Know," which starts off quietly and then catches the listener off guard with its belted, funky chorus. The album works in much the same way. A quiet song focused on instrumentation makes way for a happy, full voiced single. Gotye sets himself apart by creating 12 distinct songs, not just copying one successful idea over and over again.

The themes of the album work well with the title "Making Mirrors." "Somebody That I Used to Know" and "Eyes Wide Open" convey the shattering of a relationship, while later on the album "I Feel Better" and "Save Me" reflect the highlights. Gotye uses the album as a method of self-reflection, making the work relatable. The album hits a slump when Gotye throws out two random cuts, the highly synthesized "State of the Art," followed by the creepily-whispered "Don't Worry, We'll Be Watching You." These songs do not make sense with the rest of the album, or as singles, but they do not detract from the overall value of "Making Mirrors."

The instrumental and vocal layering is inventive, captivating and refreshing. From a small Australian barn, Gotye accomplished what so many heavily funded pop artists do not. Utilizing a wide variety of instruments, not a sound board, there is a musicality and naiveté about the album that makes it stand out. I only hope that Gotye will not dumb himself down when he makes what will be a highly anticipated follow up. He is capable of more, and should hold himself to the higher standard.

I highly recommend listening to "Making Mirrors" in its most effective form, as an album, from start to finish. In today's digital age of quick-download singles, it's easy to forget about the album as an art form and "Making Mirror" is a refreshing reminder that some songs are meant to be listened to in groups.

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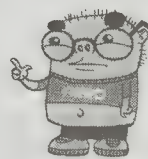
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Interviews will be held the following week.

PANTHER PROFILE

Interviews with Middlebury's
Student Athletes

By Christine Schozer

Heather Marrison '13 (Brewster, N.Y.), captain of the women's ice hockey team, started playing hockey with the boys at three years old until she was in seventh grade. In eighth grade, Marrison transitioned to a girl's tournament team and started at the Hotchkiss School to continue playing hockey. At Hotchkiss, Marrison's team came in second place at Nationals. Since Marrison has been a Panther, the women's hockey team has recorded two NESCAC championships and, during her sophomore year, finished third at NAAs. Marrison plays defense for the Panthers, while also majoring in economics and neuroscience.



1

What are
your goals
for this
season?

Now, it's to win NESCACs. Our first goal was to host, and we accomplished that. We wanted to host because our ice is bigger, so we have an advantage. Hopefully, we can win NESCACs and make it to NAAs. Personally, [given that I am a senior] I don't have time to become a better skater; all I need to do is keep the puck out of the net.

2

What was
your first
memory of
the sport?

When my older sister was eight, she played hockey. I would run around the rink watching. When I was a little older, I used to practice at a ridiculously cold rink. I would come in and start crying because my toes were so cold and I wanted to quit so badly because I couldn't get my toes warm.

3

What is your
most recent
stand out
memory?

[The win] against Elmira was pretty big. We recently had a little bit of a dip during the season and lost a few more games than we normally do. Beating a team at their small rink with these tiny outdoor lights inside was [tough.] We played them earlier this season and they are [an aggressive] and fairly ridiculous team. Beating them [Saturday] was a great win.

4

What has been a
pivotal moment
in your career so
far?

Junior year of high school I was deciding between playing hockey, lacrosse, or both. I was leaning towards only playing lacrosse because I felt burnt out with hockey. I had the club team [in addition to the school team,] so I was playing everyday. But after the season ended, I realized I wanted to keep playing hockey. I don't know the reasoning, but there was a switch and I wanted to play both instead.

5

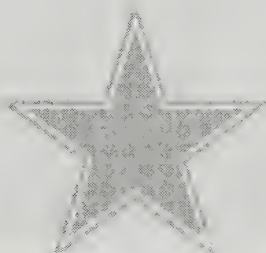
How has life
as an athlete
helped you as a
student?

I am usually better when I have a lot more things to do, so time management [is key.] Sundays are pretty useless for me because I have more time. Being with the team all the time [helps me focus] and we manage our time together.

6

Do you still
love the sport?

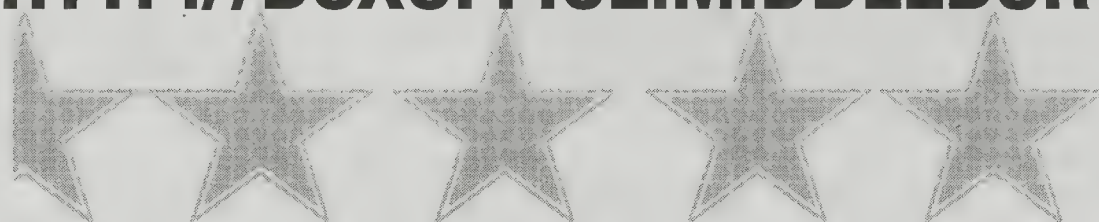
I definitely still love hockey and it's going to be weird stopping. I love hockey because it's so fast-paced and it's unlike field sports where you are playing the entire game. [In hockey] you get chances to make up for your last shift. I also love the smaller community — you know a lot of people within the hockey community.



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Men's hockey finishes season on 7-3 run

By Owen Teach

In a regular season filled with its fair share of high and low points for the Middlebury men's hockey team, the squad managed to rebound from a lackluster 5-7-2 start to post a 12-10-2 overall record, good for fifth place in the NESCAC with an 11-5-2 mark in conference play. This past weekend saw the Panthers split a pair of road games, recording a commanding 6-1 win against Hamilton before falling 5-3 to Amherst on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 15 and 16.

Middlebury must now again make the drive to Amherst this coming Saturday, Feb. 23, for its quarterfinal matchup in the conference tournament, as Trinity's 10-5 win over Bowdoin on Monday, Feb. 18, solidified the Panthers in the conference's number-five spot.

Perhaps the turning point of the season can be traced back to a 7-1 loss at Plattsburgh on Jan. 11, the final game in a woeful stretch of play that saw the Panthers mired in a 1-6-0 slump. Since that loss, the Panthers have righted the ship, going 7-3-0 over the final 10 games of the year to secure a NESCAC tournament bid. Forward Michael Longo '14 talked about how that game changed things for the team.

"The Plattsburgh game struck at our pride more so than anything else this season," said Longo. "We had been kind of floating through the season with mixed results until that game which brought many of our problems into focus. It has been a better daily approach to practice that has made us more successful over the past month."

The change in approach has paid dividends for the team, clearly

demonstrated by the offensive display put on in the first 10 minutes of the Hamilton win. Matt Silcoff '16 and Ben Wiggins '14 broke the game wide open in its first 85 seconds, netting goals on a pair of second-chance opportunities. Connor Frick '16 then blasted a slap shot from the top of the faceoff circle 8:31 into the game before Silcoff added his second of the game on a backhand attempt a minute later.

Despite Hamilton adding one in the last minute of the first period, the Panthers cruised to an emphatic victory with Evan Neugold '16 and Robbie Dobrowski '15 each adding tallies for the 6-1 win. Neugold and Silcoff led the way for the Panthers, recording three points apiece. Head coach Bill Beane spoke about his team's strong performance.

"We started the game with a lot of jump, and I thought the guys were skating well and were alert," said Beane. "We really demoralized Hamilton, and instead of sitting back we went ahead and got the fifth and the sixth goals with solid execution in all aspects of the game."

Both Longo and Beane were impressed with the efforts of the first-years.

"Silky and Neugold have been great offensively for us," said Longo. "They have had amazing years are just a part of a really, really good [first-year] class. Although Silky and Neugold may get more recognition because of the points, guys in that grade have been getting it done in other ways all year. In addition to

their on-ice performance, they have made some of the elderly members of the team feel like they are 21 year-old freshmen all over again."

Beane spoke to the importance of the duo's continued point production.

"As I've spoken about before, our scoring has been spread out," said Beane. "However, for us to be successful, Matt and Evan need to be consistent threats.

They're both on our power play and got some quality minutes against Hamilton. They generated solid offense, both themselves and getting people in the back involved."

The 5-3 loss to Amherst on Saturday may prove more troubling for the Panthers, as the team will face the same squad in the NESCAC quarterfinals this Saturday after losing five straight games to the Lord Jeffs dating back to January 2011, including last year's conference tournament championship game.

Middlebury held a 3-2 lead 6:25 into the third period against Amherst on Saturday after George Ordway '14 scored on the power play off assists from Louis Belisle '14 and Dobrowski. Things then fell apart for the Panthers, however, as Amherst netted three goals in the game's final 12 minutes to secure the 5-3 win. Despite the last period letdown, Beane is complementary of his team's effort.

"We played solid for two-and-a-half periods, and the only time we didn't play solid was in the first 10 minutes of the game," said Beane. "I think if we play that way again I like our chances of

beating them again. It was a tough loss, but it was also a good experience for our goaltender. [Mike Peters '15] had his way for the last two games, and against Amherst he faced some more shots than he was used to."

Speaking on the goaltending situation, Beane is keeping his cards close to the vest as to who will start Saturday at Amherst, although it appears that whoever performs better in practice will get the nod. Peters has started the past three games for the team, although Dan Fullam '14, Liam Moorfield-Ye '16 and Nick BonDurant '14 have all started in net for the Panthers this year.

According to Longo, the team isn't worried which guy is back in net.

"It's very unique to have so many guys capable of stepping in and performing at a high level," said Longo. "Such depth at goalie makes practices even more competitive. The great thing about our goalie situation is that each one can bring us success in the playoffs, and whoever earns it during practice will be the one who ultimately gets the start on the weekend."

Looking towards the NESCAC tournament this weekend, Beane says it could be anyone's for the taking.

"I think that any one of the top six teams can win," said Beane. "It comes down to who is sharper, who is healthier and whose special teams and goaltending can get it done – that's playoff hockey. I look back to our national championships, and the three things that stand out are strong special teams, good goaltending and your third line is better than theirs."

Middlebury travels this weekend to Amherst in the NESCAC quarterfinals.

Men's basketball travels to Amherst for NESCAC semis

CONTINUED FROM 24

game, less than a minute into the second half. Then, after both teams traded a pair of baskets, Kizel found Wolfen down the floor for an open look from three. Wolfen sank the shot, giving his team a 34-25 lead at the 16:05 mark. Following a 30-second time out taken by coach Brown, Kizel finished the run with a layup in transition off an assist from Wolfen who assisted or scored four of the seven baskets over the stretch.

Callaghan then scored seven of the Cardinals' next 10 points, cutting the deficit to six with 10:46 left to play. That was as close as the visitors would come, however, as Wolfen and Kizel hit back-to-back threes, ending a 3:33 scoring drought and extending the lead back to double digits after.

"A lot of times we get passive towards the end of the game if we have the lead and hold the ball," Thompson said. "[In this game] we focused more on still attacking, trying to push the lead, because when we ease off the gas we're not a good team and we allow them to come back."

Wolfen and Kizel would provide the dagger shortly thereafter. As the clock ticked inside five minutes, Wolfen drove to

his left, spinning a running shot that was part layup, part hook shot off the glass.

Not to be outdone, Kizel clinched the win for the Panthers two minutes later. With his team up 12 and less than three minutes remaining, the junior guard held the ball near half court, allowing the shot clock to reach the 10-second mark before making his move. Kizel took two dribbles and, still three feet behind the arc, drained a straightaway three pointer to give the Panthers their largest lead of the game.

Middlebury made seven of its eight free throws down the stretch for good measure, scoring for the final time with 49 seconds left in the game as tri-captain Peter Lynch '13 sank a pair from the charity stripe. The 6'6" big man finished the game with 12 points and eight rebounds in just 24 minutes due to foul trouble.

Kizel, meanwhile, led the team in scoring for the third straight game, racking up 20 points on just 11 shots, including three-for-five shooting from beyond the arc. Over that stretch the Panthers' leading scorer in conference is averaging 22 points per game while shooting 49 percent from the floor and 47 percent from beyond the arc.

"He is a game player," coach Brown

said of Kizel. "In the last couple of games he's come out [with] a concentrated effort to score the ball. When he's aggressive he's really hard to check on the defensive end – he can create his shot at any time. When we're in trouble he's the guy who makes things happen on the offensive end."

Tri-captains Thompson and Wolfen rounded out the Panthers in double figures, each chipping in 12 apiece with 11 of Wolfen's coming in the second half.

Thompson, the heavy favorite to win the NESCAC Defensive Player of the Year award, held Brown – who entered the game as the leading scorer in conference play with 18.9 points per game – scoreless through the first 31:50 of the game before the 5'11" Wesleyan guard made a pair of free throws. Brown finished the game with six points and just one field goal on 11 shot attempts. He finished his career as the all-time leading scorer in Wesleyan men's basketball history.

"[Thompson] is truly unbelievable," said coach Brown. "There's not another player in this league that could control Shasha Brown the way Nolan did. He might be a one-in-a-lifetime type of defensive player. His energy and his focus on the defensive

end is unmatched."

Thompson, meanwhile, is also a serious candidate for NESCAC Player of the Year. The Akron, Ohio native has put together a stellar senior campaign, ranking among the NESCAC's best offensive players in addition to being the premier defensive player in the conference. In 10 league games, Thompson averaged 14 points per game and five rebounds while shooting 54 percent from the floor, 52 percent from beyond the arc and 91 percent from the line, all the while limiting the top scorers in the conference.

"We have a very talented team, but I would say he's the most valuable player given how strong he is on the defensive end and the things he can do offensively to contribute to this team," said Brown, endorsing Thompson for the award.

Thompson and the Panthers travel this weekend to Amherst for a NESCAC semifinal matchup with Williams, Saturday, Feb. 23. The teams last met Jan. 26 in a one-point Ephs win in Williamstown, Mass. The winner will advance to the NESCAC finals to play the winner of Tufts and Amherst. Middlebury's senior class has played in each of the past three NESCAC finals, winning the 2011 title.

Lowry, Borsinger lead the way in 75-64 Panthers win

CONTINUED FROM 24

Borsinger finished the game with 18 points and seven rebounds closely followed by Lowry who added 17 points and five boards. Pett, meanwhile, finished with 13 points, eight rebounds and three steals.

Middlebury returns to action on Saturday, Feb. 23 at Amherst in the NESCAC semi-final against Williams. The conference tournament underwent a considerable shake-up when news

broke shortly after Middlebury's quarterfinal victory over Bates that Tufts, the NESCAC's top seed and the sixth-ranked team in the country at the time, had lost to eighth-seeded Bowdoin in their quarterfinal matchup. As a result, the second weekend of tournament play shifted from Medford to Amherst.

"We're going to enjoy this week together, doing what we love to do, and everybody on this team believes that we can beat Williams," coach Noreen Pecsok said.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

MEN'S HOCKEY vs. Hamilton

6-1 W

Four goals in the game's first 10 minutes key Panthers in rout of the Continentals.

WOMEN'S SQUASH vs. Columbia

5-4 L

The Panthers end their season ranked 12th in the nation by finishing third at Kurtz Cup.

MEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Wesleyan

61-49 W

Middlebury cruises into semis matchup against Williams.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY vs. Elmira

3-1 W

The team finishes with a win as NESCACs approach.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Bates

61-49 W

The Panthers seal a trip to the NESCAC semifinals.

Indoor track and field teams compete in D3 New England's

By Alex Edel

Both the men's and women's indoor track and field teams travelled to Division III New England's. The men finished ninth out of 21 teams at fellow NESCAC school Bates while the women finished fourth out of 23 teams at Southern Maine University.

Several athletes won events for the College, fulfilling hopes that had been set in place as early as September as tri-captain Sarah O'Brien '13 commented on before the competition this past weekend.

"The majority of the team has been training hard since early in the fall, and all of this hard work has prepared us to perform well in the upcoming championship meets," said O'Brien. "It's fun to get to the big meets with good competition and watch our team's hard work pay off."

O'Brien personally saw her hopes realized as she was part of the winning 4x800 meter relay along with Addie Tousley '13, Sarah Guth '15, and Alison Maxwell '15. The four Panther women finished the race in a time of 9:29.71, a full four seconds ahead of the second place team from Tufts.

Tousley also won the mile event, finishing in a time of 4:54.15. Fellow distance runner,

Juliet Ryan-Davis impressed in the 800 meter run finishing first with a time of 2:11.36 smashing the DIII record by two seconds as well as setting a new school record. Davis also crushed her competition as she finished a full 6 seconds ahead of second place finisher Maggie Fitter from Keene State.

While these first place finishes definitely contributed to the fourth place finish for the women, the team's depth, shown through several top eight finishes, really propelled the team to their high finishing spot. Only the top eight finishers in each event can score points for the team, thus making every top eight finish important for the school's overall score. Adding to the impressive nature of the team's finish was the fact that the team had fewer athletes competing in comparison to other colleges.

"We were really pleased with the women's team's performance," said O'Brien. "We had a fairly small number of athletes competing and still managed to score a lot of points and place well in the team standings overall."

Alex Morris '16 finished seventh in the 400-meter dash during her first championship meet for the Panthers with a time of 59.59. Morris was also part of the

record setting 4x400 meter relay team with fellow first year runners Halle Gustafson '16 and Olivia Artaiz '16 and Ryan-Davis. The team finished in eighth with a time of 12:42.47, setting another new school record.

Distance runners Caroline Guiot '16, Katie Carlson '15 and O'Brien all earned top eight finishes in their events as Guiot finished second in the 3,000 meter while Carlson finished eighth in the same event. O'Brien finished fourth in the 1,000 meter with a time of 3:00.61. Also finishing fourth was high jump star Grace Doering '13, jumping to a height of 5'4.25".

While the men's team did not place as high as the women, they also earned several top finishes while competing at Bates College. The team's highest finish came in the Distance Medley Relay. The team of Fritz Parker '15, Wilder Schaaf '14, Patrick Hebble '13, and Jack Davies '13 finished second overall in a time of 10:14.71. Both the College's team as well as the first place team from Bowdoin convincingly broke the meet record, which had previously been held by Williams College with a time of 10:17.06.

The male distance runners continued to show their prowess as both Anthony Lee '13 and Kevin Wood '15 finished in the

top eight in the 3,000 meter run. Lee ran to third place with a time of 8:35.20 while Wood placed fourth after finishing just over a second after Lee with a time of 8:36.35.

Standout sprinter Brian Holtzman '14 finished in eighth place in the 60 meter dash in a time of 7.14 seconds. Fellow sprinter Peter Hetzler '13 came in sixth place after finishing the 400 meter dash in 50.75 seconds. Hetzler only finished .5 seconds after the first place runner, and was able to edge out Derek Barnes from MIT by .01 seconds for sixth place.

Rounding out the top finishes for the men, was the 4x800 meter relay team, comprised of Sam Cartwright '16, Lucas Carpinello '16, Will Gibbons '13 and Sam Craft '14. The team ran the relay in 8:06.57 finishing in eighth place just .20 seconds ahead of Emmanuel College.

"The team really came together this weekend to support each other and perform well, which gives us great momentum heading into the rest of the championship season and into outdoor track," said O'Brien.

Several athletes will now go on to compete at the Open New England Championships this Saturday Feb. 22 at Boston University.

12th-ranked women's squash falls in Kurtz Cup semifinals, seals record at 16-6

By Gabe Weissman

While the Middlebury men's squash team has had a respite in matches over the past week in preparation for nationals, the women were busy competing in the national competition held at Yale Univ. this past weekend, Feb. 15-17. Going into the weekend, the Panthers were ranked 11th in the nation, and therefore played in the Kurtz cup for teams ranked in the 9-16 positions.

In their first match in the quarterfinals against Franklin & Marshall, the Panthers went 9-0 in match score with nearly all matches ending in three straight sets. The Panthers then moved on to the semifinals on Saturday to play Bates, but fell to the Bobcats by a match score of 3-6. The Panthers gained wins from Saskia Pownall-Gray '16, Amanda Chen '14, and Tiffany Hau '16. Hau was the only Panther to remain undefeated over the course of the weekend.

After falling in the semifinals to Bates, the Panthers moved on to the third place match on Sunday and fell in an incredibly tight match to Columbia University by a match score of 4-5. The top four seeds, Charlotte Dewey '15, Abby Jenkins '14, Annie Wymard '15, and Hau defeated their Columbia opponents. Meanwhile, three of the five remaining seeds played their

matches to five sets in what was one of the Middlebury women's closest matchups of the year. After falling to Columbia, Middlebury finished the tournament – and their season – with the number-twelve ranking nationally.

Number-one seed Dewey commented on the Panthers' play this weekend and reflected on the season as a whole.

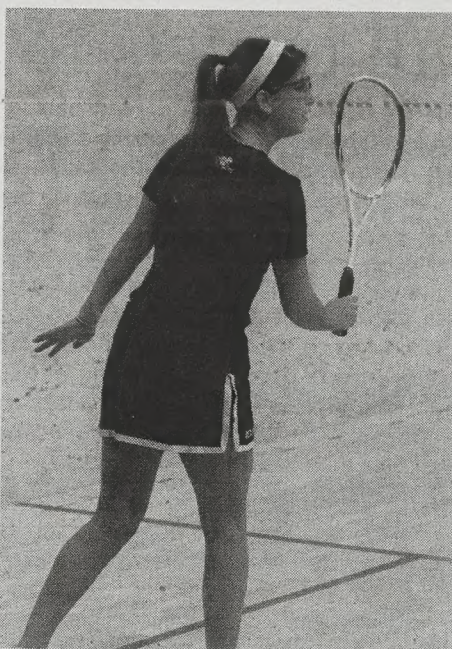
"Overall we were really happy with our performance this season," she said. "Our national ranking and success over the course of the season can largely be attributed to the depth we have. Although it would have been nice to beat Columbia, we were really happy with our finish in nationals this past weekend. Everyone played their hearts out in that final match, and as a whole we ended the season with high spirits that should role on into next year."

After seeing a very successful season this past year, it appears as though the Middlebury women's team has a significant amount of young talent, and should be exciting to watch in years to come.

The men's team will travel to Dartmouth to compete in Team Nationals Feb. 22-24. The men are ranked 16th nationally after falling most recently to St. Lawrence 9-0 on Feb. 6.

Both teams and the entire squash

community saw their championship season schedule change as complications from winter storm Nemo forced the cancellation of the D3 singles invitational on Feb. 9. The men's team will have to look to come out strong at Team Nationals despite having not competed in a match since Feb. 6.



FILE PHOTO

The women's team finished out their season ranked 12th nationally with a 16-6 record after falling in the semifinals to Bates.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT GR8 EIGHT

RANKING	TEAM
	<i>Damon's Decisions</i>
1	MEN'S BASKETBALL <i>On to LeFrak to win back the NESCAC.</i>
2	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL <i>Gutsy win against Bates. Very deserving.</i>
3	SKIING <i>A performance fitting of the 90th anniversary of Carnival.</i>
4	WOMEN'S HOCKEY <i>Impressive bounce-back win over third-ranked Elmira.</i>
5	SWIMMING AND DIVING <i>A fourth place finish at the fastest league meet in D3.</i>
6	INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD <i>More school records falling at D3 New England's.</i>
7	SQUASH <i>Nemo threw a wrench in the D3 Singles Invitation.</i>
8	MEN'S HOCKEY <i>Is an improbable NESCAC in the cards again for this team?</i>

EDITORS' PICKS



DAMON HATHEWAY (94-77, .550)



FRITZ PARKER (7-6, .538)



OWEN TEACH (53-63, .457)



ALEX EDEL (74-91, .448)

How far will the men's basketball team go in the NESCAC tournament?

NESCAC CHAMPIONS
How do you like that, James Jensen '14?

THE FINALS
The Ephs had best look out.

NESCAC CHAMPIONS
Get out of the way, Williams. We want Amherst for Round 2.

THE FINALS
It won't be an easy road, but I think we have what it takes to get there.

What will the women's hockey team's margin of victory (or loss) be against Colby this weekend?

+4
The number two scoring offense hosts the number seven scoring defense ...

+3
It's tournament time and the women won't mess around.

+3
Hosting Colby with its 4-12 record in the NESCAC should be easy. Roll tide.

+2
After their win against Elmira, these girls will skate past Colby!

Where will men's swimming and diving place at the NESCAC Championships?

SEVENTH
Past performance is the best predictor of future performance. In this case, anyway.

SIXTH
Call that an improvement from last year.

FIFTH
Thanks, Alex. Although, I hope the party on Monday didn't mess with your judgement ...

FIFTH
Despite the team's less-than-attractive haircuts, the men are sure to impress in the pool!

Who will win the Georgetown-Syracuse game Saturday?

SYRACUSE
The Hoyas aren't winning at the Carrier Dome. Syracuse is 15-1 at the Dome.

SYRACUSE
The Orange are lucky this game isn't in D.C.

GEORGETOWN
With seven straight Big East wins, it's Hoya Saxa all day.

GEORGETOWN
A tough choice between a Hoya and an Orangeman. #Panthersrule

Women's swimming takes fourth in NESCAC

By Fritz Parker

The women's swimming and diving team competed in the NESCAC championship at Bowdoin over three days this weekend, Feb. 15-17, finishing fourth in a competitive field. The women were in third place for much of the weekend – trailing conference powers Williams and Amherst – but were overtaken by Tufts on the final day of competition to match their fourth-place finish from 2012.

"I was extremely proud with how we swam," said head coach Bob Rueppel. "If you watched the meet, we stood out as the most unified team. Our athletes were up the whole meet. They were energetic."

On the opening day of competition, Feb. 15, Jamie Hillas '15 got the Panthers out to a fast start by defending her 50-yard breaststroke title from last season, finishing in a time of 29.82. Megan Griffin '16 placed fifth in the 50-yard butterfly, while Colleen Harper '14 finished fourth in the one-meter diving event and Andie Tibbetts '13 took fifth in the 50-yard backstroke to put the Panthers in third heading into the second day. The 400-yard medley relay team of Tibbetts, Hillas, Courtney Haron '15 and Maddy Berkman '15 earned an NCAA "B" cut in 3:51.98, good for third place. Haron also made a "B" cut in the 500-yard freestyle, but finished last in the eight-person final, a fact indicative of the strength of the conference field this year.

"When everything shook down after this weekend, this was definitely the fastest

conference in the country," said Rueppel. "Throwing young kids into that situation, I just thought they handled it very, very well."

The Panthers came into Saturday's finals in third place, and were buoyed by the individual top-five finishes from Hillas in the 100-yard breaststroke and Haron in the 200-yard freestyle, both making "B" cuts. Hillas, who won that event at last year's NESCACs, finished just 0.17 seconds behind the winner with a faster time than her conference-winning time from the year before. The 200-yard medley relay of Tibbetts, Hillas, Griffin and Haron also finished third and made an NCAA "B" cut.

"The biggest thing I was happy about was the number of kids that made it back to finals," said Rueppel. "Saturday night we had 17 out of 21 swimmers competing. Last year it was six or seven."

For much of day three, the Panthers held a narrow margin over fourth-place Tufts. In three-meter diving, Harper and Hannah King '13 finished fifth and sixth, respectively.

As the meet came down to the final event, however, Tufts gained a lead over Middlebury by placing four swimmers in the final of the 200-yard butterfly. Though the Panther team of Cece Burkey '15, Nora Daly '13, Lydia Carpenter '15 and Ann Carpenter '15 defeated the Jumbos in the meet's final event – the 400-yard freestyle relay – it was not enough, as the Panthers could not make up the gap.

"All four girls were just awesome," said Rueppel. "You always want to be perfect, but

when you look back at the whole situation, we took a nice big step."

Amherst won the overall team title, marking the first time in 13 years that Williams has failed to win the women's conference crown. The Panthers finished just 11 points from a podium finish, an improvement from last year when they were over 100 points out of third.

"It would have been nice to get third," said Rueppel. "I'm not going to lie. Going into the last relay knowing we were 15 down and it was going to take a disqualification in order to get third, we still beat Tufts in both the A and the B relay. That just speaks volumes of what we wanted to get done."

With eight NCAA provisional cuts from the weekend, the Panthers will have to wait and see how many of their swimmers will compete in the national championship meet, held in late March in The Woodlands, Texas.

"It's a process that we have to go through here because we're building a program and it's all going through these steps," said Rueppel. "As a coach I have to step back, because we're building that foundation."

While the women were competing at Bowdoin, the men prepared for their own conference championship meet, held this weekend, Feb. 22-24, at Wesleyan.

The men finished seventh at the NESCAC meet a year ago, and will rely heavily on the return of Ian Mackay '14 to get back into the conference mix. Mackay won both the 50-yard freestyle and 50-yard butterfly at

the 2011 championship before missing last season with an injury.

"Having a guy like Mackay not only strengthens your relays, it makes the other guys stronger," said Rueppel. "He makes everybody around him just a little bit better."

Stephan Koenigsberger '16 enters the meet as the conference's fifth seed in the 50-yard breaststroke. The Panthers' 200-yard freestyle relay, 400-yard freestyle relay and 200-yard medley relay are each seeded fifth going into the meet.

"We've got some pretty strong relays," said Rueppel. "We would have good relays this year because of the new guys we've got in the program and some older guys swimming well, but putting Ian back in the mix puts us on the cusp of being great."

Rueppel commented on the team's underdog status heading into the meet.

"We're not on anybody's radar," he said. "I think what we're trying to do is relish that role. Nobody's paying attention to us so we can just go about our business. I think we're going to surprise some people."

The meet kicks off on Friday, Feb. 22, and continues with trials in the mornings and finals in the afternoons through Sunday.

"We have nothing to lose," said Rueppel. "When you compete without limitations, without expectations, in that sense I think it allows you to perform instinctively. When you're put in that position where you can just instinctively swim, it's a great position to be in. That's exactly where we are."

Women's hockey team skates by third-ranked Elmira

By Mary Claire Ecclesine

This past Saturday, Feb. 16, the Middlebury women's ice hockey team competed in their last regular season game against third-ranked Elmira. The game ended in a 3-1 win for the six-ranked Panthers, who locked down the top seed for the upcoming NESCAC tournament with the win.

The first period of the game ended without any scoring after back-and-forth attempts by both teams came up empty. In the second period, however, Middlebury tapped in two goals to Elmira's one to take the lead. The first was scored by Lauren Greer '13 and assisted by Julia Wardwell '16. For the second goal, Emily Fluke '15 fed Katie Mandingo '16, who tapped in the puck for the score.

While the third period was another shutout for Middlebury, the team scored one more goal to end the game with a score of 3-1. The final goal of the game was tallied by Molly Downey '13 and assisted by both Mandigo and Mackenzie Martin '15.

"It was a really big win and has given us a lot of confidence going into the NESCAC tournament," said tri-captain Heather Marrison '13. "Elmira was an extremely strong team but we played very well."

JULIA WARDWELL '16
DEFENDER

Goalkeeper Annabelle Jones '15 stood out for the Panthers, recording 29 saves to keep Middlebury in the game throughout.

Overall Middlebury recorded an aggressive game with four penalties to Elmira's three. The Soaring Eagles did manage seven more shots than the

Panthers, holding a 30-23 advantage.

The Panthers came up empty on three power-play opportunities in the game, while the Soaring Eagles were one of four in power plays.

Despite playing two more player-down minutes and suffering a shot deficit, the Panthers still brought home the victory, leaving them in a strong position heading into the postseason.

"NESCAC will be a great test of how far our team has come and how determined we are to win," said Wardwell.

The Panthers pushed their record to 16-6-2 with the victory over Elmira, and will look for a jump in the national poll following a victory over a higher-seeded opponent.

Entering as the conference number-one seed, the Panthers host Colby in a NESCAC quarterfinal contest on Saturday, Feb. 23 in Kenyon Arena. If the Panthers prevail against the Mules, they will host the conference semifinal and

championship on the following weekend.

"We played Colby the first games of the season and we are now excited to get to play them again to see how much progress we have made," said Marrison.

BY THE NUMB3RS

Points scored by the women's swim team at NESCACs, good for fourth place.

1006.5

Years since the women's basketball team's last trip to the conference semifinals.

11

6

Straight trips to the NESCAC semis for the men's basketball team.

Total points scored in Sunday's NBA All-Star game.

281

4

Combined number of points by which men's basketball has fallen in two conference losses this season.

Pokorny wins second 5K classic with time of 15:32

CONTINUED FROM 24

me the confidence to really put the hammer down in the last two kilometers."

Her teammates, Mooney, finished at 17th, and captain Hilary Rich '13 followed, placing 25th. In the men's 10K classic, Ben Lustgarten '14 spearheaded the men's nordic team with yet another solid performance. As one of the skiers in the leading pack throughout the two laps, he snatched a fifth place finish. Dylan McGarthwaite '15 and Austin Cobb '14 came in 15th and 24th place, respectively.

As for the alpine squad, Sackbauer paced the team at eighth place in the women's slalom alongside classmates Katelyn Barclay '15, who finished ninth, and Kerry Daigle '15, who rounded off at 17th place.

"The girls have stepped up and I believe it is the result of the dedication of the [girls] team to fundamentals and being accountable for making positive change in technique," said head coach Stever Bartlett in regards to the women's recent upsurge in confidence. "They had the environment and training opportunity to learn and improve, and they demanded that of themselves. It is a good feeling to see them work hard at some very specific goals and have success in achieving them."

The men had encouraging results as well. The one-two punch of anchors Andrew McNealus '13 and Hig Roberts '14 resulted in a promising third-fourth finish in the men's

slalom.

On day two in the women's 15K freestyle race, Pokorny picked up a good eighth place finish. Mooney and Issy Pelletier '16 completed the course one after another in the 19th and 20th positions. In the men's 20K freestyle, Lustgarten was less than one second short from a podium finish, coming in fourth just behind Dartmouth's Scott Lacy. Classmate Austin Cobb '14 was 13th and McGarthwaite placed 22nd.

Meanwhile, back at the Snow Bowl, the giant slalom races were well underway. On the men's side, star skier Dave Donaldson '14 fell just short of another win. His winning streak snapped with a third place finish, behind former teammates and alpine veterans Jonathan Nordbotten and Travis Dawson from the University of Vermont.

Following 0.01 seconds behind Donaldson was classmate Roberts, who has been a consistent top-10 finisher recent carnivals. McNealus and captain Bryan Shpall '13 finished in the 10th and 12th position, while Liam Mulhern '14 was the 18th skier to cross the finish line.

On the women's end, Sackbauer showed her prowess.

"Mary Sackbauer is on fire," said Bartlett.

The sophomore continued her hot streak and pulled off an exceptional performance finishing in second place. She thoroughly enjoyed the race and it showed in her results.

"It is one most exciting events I could

ever be included in," said Sackbauer. "As my captain [Christine Schozer '13] mentioned in the meeting the night before the race, it may be the only time in our lives we have hundreds of people cheering for us. On the alpine giant slalom course, the spectators stand in the middle of the run, so even though you are completely focused you can hear them yelling at you. It is an incredible feeling and makes you want to go that much faster."

In the same event, first-year Kara Shaw '16 rounded off at 14th place.



COURTESY OF STELLA HOLTZ

Annie Pokorny '15 won her second 5K classic race of the season at the 90th Winter Carnival in Middlebury history on Friday, Feb. 15 with a time of 15:32.

Middlebury skis to third in 90th Winter Carnival

By Lok Sze Leung

The Panther ski teams successfully fortified their place on the podium by finishing third overall at the home carnival this past weekend. Nordic standout and U.S. National Team member Annie Pokorny '15 earned her second win this season in the women's 5K classic. Sophomore Mary Sackbauer '15 once again proved herself to be instrumental to the alpine team as she came in second overall after finishing just 0.4 seconds behind the first place finisher in the women's giant slalom.

The alpine races were held at the Snow Bowl while the nordic events took place at the Rikert Nordic Center. Since both of the venues will host the NCAA Ski Championships in a few weeks' time, a lot of teams in the conference saw the Middlebury Carnival as an important trial run

and a prelude to Nationals.

The changing and unpredictable weather played a role in the competition, particularly in the cross-country contests.

"Both days, I made a last minute ski choice based on the weather. On Friday, we were waffling between klister and zero (waxless) skis; luckily, I chose the right one on my way to the start," Pokorny explained. "On Saturday, even though it was colder and snowing, the manmade snow called for a warmer, softer ski. Even though Heather Mooney '15 and I raced on our colder skis, the wax and atmosphere was so good, we managed just fine!"

At the Snow Bowl downhill skiers enjoyed much better conditions.

"We have a lot more snow on the alpine hill than the nordic hill," said Sackbauer. "The Snow Bowl crew worked really hard to make



COURTESY OF CORY RANSOM

Dave Donaldson '14 angles by the gate as he races in the Giant Slalom event at the 90th Winter Carnival. Donaldson finished third in the event, leading Middlebury skiers to a third place finish.

enough snow, so we could have perfect conditions for our race. The few warm days before the race actually helped our snow because it added moisture into it during the day and then it froze at night, which makes a rock hard surface just the way we like it."

On day one of the 90th Middlebury College Winter Carnival, the Panthers came out in front with Pokorny's victory

in the women's 5K classic. The outstanding skier dominated the course, finishing 20 seconds ahead of her opponent. Pokorny believed that a last-minute decision in changing her skis and her familiarity with the racing course were some of the most crucial factors to her success.

"I was lucky to have changed my skis on my way to the start pen. Being last on the start list allowed

me the time to test skis as the weather changed. (This) definitely helped sway things in my favor," said Pokorny. "Although it was my first time racing on our course, I had skied it enough to know that the last hill is the most difficult, and even though I was four seconds down on the second hill, my having trained on course so much gave

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Panthers advance to NESCAC semis for first time since 2002

By Alex Morris

For the first time in 11 years, the women's basketball team will advance to the NESCAC semifinals after beating Bates 75-64 in the quarterfinal game. This win comes after the team finished off the regular season with a 65-45 loss to Amherst on Wednesday, Feb. 13.

Amherst started out strong, limiting Middlebury's scoring chances with tight defense, as they moved out to a 15-2 lead in the first 11 minutes of play.

Rachel Crews '15 led a Middlebury surge outscoring the Jeffs 16-9, cutting the lead down to five with 4:30 remaining in the first half. Amherst increased the advantage to nine before a late three by Laura Lowry '14 cut the lead to 27-21 at the intermission.

Middlebury came out aggressive in the second half, cutting the lead again to five on a three from Lowry with 1:16 gone on the clock. The Panthers later came within three once again when Tracy Borsinger '13 sunk a three at the 16:24 mark to make it a 32-29 game.

The Jeffs responded with a 17-2 shot advantage over a 6:49 span, led by Jasmine Hardy and Megan Robertson. While the Panthers came within 14 at the 2:53 mark, the Jeffs closed the game on an 8-2 run to come away with the win.

After shooting 32 percent in the first half, the Panthers found a rhythm offensively in the second half improving their overall shooting to 47.6 percent in the game. Despite the hot shooting in the second half, the Panther's conceded 38 points in the later half, as well as giving up

27 second chance points. Scarlett Kirk '14 finished with a team high of 14 points, while Lowry and Crews each bagged 10. Jesse Miller '13 had nine rebounds.

"It was frustrating to hold Amherst close for much of the game but then let the score get away from us, but we still feel that there are many positives to take away from the game," co-captain Kate Logan '13 said. "We played very tough defense and tied the Amherst players out through an uptempo game."

The Panthers did not let this loss get to them as they came out strong in their NESCAC quarterfinal, leading early 8-6, before Bates went on an 8-0 run to open up with a 14-8 advantage after just over six minutes.

Lowry then led the Panthers on a 7-0 spurt, contributing five of the seven points including a three-point play, to cut the lead to 27-26 with 5:04 remaining. Middlebury continued their dominant passage of play, scoring nine of the game's next 11 points to take a 39-32 advantage with less than a minute to play in the half. A late basket by Crews gave the Panthers a 41-35 lead going into halftime.

Learning from previous mistakes, Middlebury did not let the quality of their play or aggression slip after the break, as a 9-2 run put them up 56-43 with 13:54 left in the game.

However, the Panthers were then unable to connect from the floor, missing the next nine shots as they went nearly 10 minutes without a field goal. Middlebury found themselves tied at 61-61 with 3:58 left in the game when a basket from Lowry ended the

drought.

Middlebury then went on a 12-0 run, with seven points coming from Katie Pett '14 to put Middlebury ahead by 12 points with just seconds left in the game.

"Everyone on the team is willing to do whatever it takes to win, and that's our greatest strength ... we knew that we had the potential to be in this position and it's great to see all of our hard work pay off," Lowry said.

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JAYI ZHU

Laura Lowry '14 puts in a layup in Middlebury's 75-64 win over Bates in the NESCAC quarterfinals, Saturday, Feb. 16.

Men's hoops throttle Cardinals 61-49 in NESCAC quarterfinals

By Damon Hatheway

The fourth-ranked men's basketball team advanced to the NESCAC semifinals for the sixth straight year, downing Wesleyan 61-49 on Saturday, Feb. 16. The Cardinals, featuring a triumvirate of 1,000-point scorers — Shasha Brown, Mike Callaghan and Derick Beresford — managed to shoot just 32.7 percent from the floor, as the Panthers opened the game in a suffocating 3-2 zone and kept the visitors out of rhythm all afternoon long. The loss dropped Wesleyan to 12-13, ending a highly disappointing season for a team ranked in the preseason top 25 poll.

"We did a great job on the defensive end, holding down a very talented Wesleyan team," head coach Jeff Brown said. "I couldn't be more pleased with the combination of our zone defense and the man-to-man [defense]. [The combination] was very successful."

Middlebury opened the game with an early five-point lead as tri-captain Jake Wolfen '13 found 6'8"-center Jack Roberts underneath the basket for an easy layup. Both teams struggled from the floor in the first half, however, as the Panthers' zone stymied the Cardinals, and Wesleyan's slow pace in turn limited the home team to just 10 made field goals on 24 attempts in the first half. While Middlebury hauled in six offensive rebounds and turned the ball over just four times in the first half, the team led by just three at the intermission, as junior guard Joey Kizel '14 hit a jumper with 39

seconds left in the first to take a 24-21 lead.

Wesleyan, meanwhile, received very little contribution from its "Big 3" as Beresford, Brown and Callaghan combined to shoot 2-17 in the first half.

"We just tried to pressure them — get right up in their shirts right from the tip," said tri-captain Nolan Thompson '13. "We try to do that most time that we play them and it doesn't always work. It's better if they miss the first shot and then we don't let them get into a rhythm offensively."

Cardinals forward Glenn Thomas, meanwhile, kept his team in the game, nearly recording a double-double in the first half alone, scoring eight points on four-for-four shooting while pulling down nine rebounds. Thomas accounted for five of Wesleyan's nine offensive rebounds as Joe Reilly's team crashed the offensive glass in the first half, preying on Middlebury's inability to box out in the zone defense.

"[Rebounding] has been a big issue all year for us," said Thompson. "And it's not just the bigs that need to rebound — we need to come down and help. If our guys are crashing as the guards, we need to go in and help the bigs get a rebound."

Unable to develop any momentum before the break, the Panthers opened the second half on a 12-4 run, sparked by Wolfen. The New Jersey native converted a three-point play, as Brown, Wesleyan's diminutive guard, picked up his third foul of the

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